



ZERO BEAT

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



Since 1932

Volume 45 Issue 2

SEMARA-W1AEC

February 2009

SEMARA's VEs



RAY-KC1XW, WAYNE-WA1CCM, KENNY-KA1YDH, ANDY-WA1FNM, RAY-KB1EVX, AND LARRY-AA1FS

These gentlemen are some of the unsung heroes who unselfishly give of their time to serve the larger radio amateur community. Every other month, they show up on a Saturday morning ready and willing to provide examinations to anyone who walks in by 10:30 AM.

This past month their efforts paid off. All seven applicants passed their exams and were issued Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCEs). More details on page 3.

The next examination session is scheduled for

Apr. 4, 2009 at SEMARA – 10:30 AM

Contact Larry Houbre-AA1FS at

LRHguy@earthlink.net or 508-991-6055
for more information.

The 2009 for the session is \$15.

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ZERO BEAT

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2009 SEMARA OFFICERS

President
 Louis Mester - W1CH
Vice President
 Bob Kelley - K1KVV
Secretary
 Marcel Dumont - W1MLD
Treasurer
 Mike McDonald - KB1NB

Directors:

Dave Dean - K1JGV
 Dave Goldstein - W1DJG
 Dick Halliwell - K1AHA

Trustees: (year term is up)

Mike Miller - N1ITQ (2009)-Chair
 Charlie Days - WA1JFD (2010)
 Tim Smith - N1TI (2011)
 Henry Blanchett - W1GYL (2012)
 John Walsh, WA1LSH (2013)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Building and Grounds
 Dave Dean - K1JGV
 Marty Jordan - KA1YFV
Scholarship
 Larry Houbre, Jr. - AA1FS
Technical
 Dave Goldstein - W1DJG

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Activities
 Scott Szala - W1EV
 ARES/SKYWARN
 Rob Macedo - KD1CY
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>



It is time to start planning for Field Day 2009. I favor a 'real' field experience for Field Day. We can use our newly re-graded (by then) grounds and set-up as though we were recovering from a hurricane. Field Day runs from Saturday, June 27 1800Z (1400EDT) through Sunday, June 28 2100Z (1700EDT). By waiting until June 27 1800Z to start our setup, we are permitted to operate the entire 27 hours! We can choose our operating class later. I am in favor of operating free of commercial power with specially erected wire and beam antennas. WHAT SAY YOU?

It is never too late to start planning for our SEMARA Tailgate 2009. We will need to 'police' our grounds to remove most of the glass from the soil. We do seem to have an on-going interest in quality 'junque.' So all we need is some one to serve as organizer. WHAT SAY YOU?

CHARLES H. LEACH, JR. — N1BUD (SK)

Charles H. "Buddy" Leach Jr., 90, of S. Dartmouth, died Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2008 at St. Luke's Hospital. He was the husband of Helen A. (Jones) Leach. A memorial service will be held in the spring.



Buddy became a member of SEMARA in 1990 holding the callsign KA1SKU. This was the period when the current clubhouse was built and later the erection of the 180 foot tower. He last renewed N1BUD (Advanced) on July 30, 2008. Previously he also held KD1AT.

Buddy was a commercial fisherman for 30 years. He also worked at Rodney Teledyne for 18 years. During the summer months, for many years, Buddy was the assistant harbormaster for the Town of Dartmouth.

Our sincere sympathies go out to his wife and family

POINT TO PONDER

"We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the hand."

~Randy Pausch

HAMMIN' AROUND

Question* G1A04 Which amateur band restricts communication to specific channels, using only USB voice, and prohibits all other modes, including CW and data?

- A. 11 meters
- B. 12 meters
- C. 30 meters
- D. 60 meters

* 2007 Element 3 General Class Question Pool (good thru 2011-06-30) **Answer on page 10**

Club Notes

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

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.

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

Apr. 4, 2009

SEMARA – 10:30 AM

Larry Houbre-AA1FS

LRHguy@earthlink.net

508-991-6055

SEMARA 900 MHZ FREQ. PAIR

927.8375 MHz (repeater output)

902.8375 MHz (repeater input)

Details about the new repeater coming soon.

FEB 7 VE RESULTS

Two candidates

John Brusa—KB1RRQ

Benjamin B. Jackson—N1WBV

successfully passed the *Extra* exam.

Five candidates

Marc M. Dumont—KB1ODE

Michael Holodinski—KB1RSF

Steve T. Kondo—KB1MEH

Robert A. McKernan—KB1RUG

Peter C. Seddon—N1XQK

successfully passed the *General* exam.

Enjoy your new privileges!

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 **L, O, B, N, T, U, I, F, D**. The main diagonal spells a 9-letter word. **Solution is on page 10.**

	T		D	O		L		
					B		T	
		U				O		B
					L	B		U
	N			T			O	
U		D	O					
I		N				F		
	B		F					
		O		I	T		D	

Business Meeting Minutes



October 2, 2008

The business meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Vice-President Bob, K1KVV, followed by a salute to the flag. The roll call indicated 21 members present.

Secretary's Report (Tim, N1TI) from September was accepted as published in the Zero Beat and on the club's web site.

Treasurer's Report: Mike, KB1NB reports that the club treasury balance is \$12,782 (combined checking and savings). Cash inflow was \$37.27 and cash out was \$4,536.46. Inflow shortage was due to Netcom check being returned for non-sufficient funds.

Mike updated the membership regarding ongoing legal actions relative to the cleanup costs, insurance coverage and related attorney activities. A motion to refer to audit passed.

Standing Committee Reports

Building and Grounds (Dave, K1JGV): Reports that the shingling project on the north side of the building has been completed. The BBQ pit was relocated by K1KGJ and WA1YFV. A round of applause followed Dave's report.

Technical Committee: Dave, W1DJG reported that the logging software has been installed on the station computer. With the recent actions by the FCC to invoke restrictions on the 70cm band due to interference to the Pave Paws radar installation, Dave is studying the feasibility to install a 900 MHz repeater system at SEMARA. A lot of commercial equipment is reported to be available surplus both locally and on eBay as public safety systems convert to digital and trunked systems.

Special Committee Reports

ARES/Skywarn: Rob, KD1CY reported that a Section Emergency Test is coming up and details will be announce later. A hurricane was successfully held in August. He reported that tropical storm Hannah is currently being observed by watchers and NWS. Rob also reminded the membership to vote in the ARRL Section Manager election.

Events: Bob, K1KVV reminded the membership to review the events listing in the back of QST. There are a few sprints scheduled this month, each lasting 2-4 hours. A reminder that the club station, W1AEC

is available for contesting or any type of activity and strongly encouraged members to come and use the station. Bob solicited suggestions for SEMARA administered events.

Website (Tim, N1TI): Routine updates accomplished. A new web site is being considered for development. Progress toward this effort will be announced in a future meeting.

Communications (Bob, K1KVV): Received a membership application from Ron Ellis, N1GFS. Ratification passed unanimously. Ron is an active Scout leader in Mattapoissett and is interested in young ham activities such as JOTA. The membership provided a warm reception to Ron.

Old Business: none

New Business: Dave, K1JGV motioned to disband the New Building Committee. Motion passed.

Dave, W1DJG motioned to approve an application for a coordinated 900 MHz frequency pair. Motion passed. Dave will administer the application to the coordinators.

Mike, KB1NB motioned to authorize a \$20/month budget for soda reimbursement.

Good of the Club: Bob, K1KVV polled the membership regarding this years Christmas Party. Ideas were discussed including meeting for dinner at the Century House or holding a pot-luck dinner at the club house.

Don, WA1PLT inquired about the annual Steam Up in Connecticut. A quick inquiry on the website revealed that it was scheduled this Saturday (October 4th).

Dave, K1JGV volunteered to draft up plans for a handicapped ramp by the next meeting.

Nearfest (formally Hosstraders) has returned to the Deerfield Fairgrounds in NH and will be held next weekend.

Bob, K1KVV polled the membership about holding license classes at the club house.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn passed unanimously at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim, N1TI

Business Meeting Minutes



December 4, 2008

The business meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by President Lou, W1CH. The salute to the flag was followed by a roll call with 25 members present and one guest.

Secretary's Report (Tim, N1TI) from November 2008 was accepted as published on the club's website.

Treasurer's Report: Mike, KB1NB reports that the club treasury balance is \$15,661 (combined checking and savings). Two checks cleared from Netcom contributing to total income of \$5,078. Expenses for the month included \$645 for insurance and \$2,500 in legal fees. A motion to refer to audit passed.

Standing Committee Reports

Building and Grounds (Dave, K1JGV): Reports that remaining work on the building is to reinstall the rake boards. The grounds grading will have to be delayed until spring due to the need to obtain a permit (100 ft. environmental set back). Dave reported that the riding mower donated by W1DJG has been repaired by Marty, K1YFV and is ready for action.

Technical Committee: Dave, W1DJG reports everything running status quo. Ongoing research on the 900 MHz project. Repeater is running well. Repeater clock has been set to EST.

Special Committee Reports

ARES/Skywarn: Rob, KD1CY announced that Mike Neilson, W1MPN won the recent ARRL SM election. Skywarn Recognition Day will commence this Friday night thru Saturday. In November about two dozen Skywarn coordinators were recognized for their efforts over the summer by the NWS forecasters. They received a crystal trophy marking their contributions.

Events: Bob, K1KVV reminded that Kid's Day is coming up in January and to look for details in the upcoming Zero Beat. For CW fans, Don, WA1BXY will be holding his CW net again.

Website (Tim, N1TI): Routine updates. A new look is coming to the web site soon. A new camera has been purchased for evaluation. The Deskjet 940 printer has been set up for sharing on the club computer. More progress on the LaCrosse weather sta-

tion has been made with plans to install after the first of the year. The existing APRS temperature probe will be moved to the crawl space then.

Communications (Bob, K1KVV): Condolence cards were sent to the families of 3 recently SK members. A membership application was received from Ray Wall, N1KXJ in which the membership voted unanimously to accept.

Presidents Comments: Lou, W1CH polled the membership regarding the Christmas Party and suggested that a pot luck luncheon be held at the club house. December 20th was proposed as the date.

Old Business: A reminder that a motion was approved at the previous meeting that a member assessment of \$10 will be payable beginning at the January meeting. All member assessments should be received by the April meeting. Payment by check payable to SEMARA is preferred and can be sent in care of Vice President, Bob, K1KVV.

New Business: none

Good of the Club: Mike, KB1NB reported that the estate of Paul Lariviere – WA1CQM, donated his HF station and a 2 meter FM radio to the club.

Election Results (Tim - N1TI, Nominating Committee):

2009 Officers

President: Lou, W1CH
 Vice President: Bob, K1KVV
 Treasurer: Mike, KB1NB
 Secretary: Marcel, W1MLD

Board of Directors

Dave, W1DJG
 Dick, K1AHA
 Dave, K1JGV

Trustee

John, WA1LSH

50/50 Raffle: Dave, W1DJG collected \$84 was collected. Our newest member N1KXJ drew a winning ticket and \$42 was awarded to Marcel, W1MLD. Additional prizes including LED flashlights, hats and other prizes were also given away.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn passed unanimously at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Smith, N1TI



Business Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2009

Club President, Louis (W1CH) called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM with the salute to the Flag.

Roll was called with sixteen (16) members present and no guests.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

January's meeting minutes were read by Marcel (W1MLD) as posted on the bulletin board and printed in *ZERO BEAT*. Motion was made and seconded to accept as read. Passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mike (KB1NB) announced a balance of \$16,892 total in both the savings and checking accounts.

Property taxes for the year are \$4,800. With the tower share of \$4,200. The balance of \$600. Is the Clubs responsibility.

The secretary also reminded everyone that the \$10.00 assessment is due by the April meeting. Preferably paid by check but cash is acceptable.

We need to replenish the Attorney's retainer fee by \$3,000.00. A motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

SCHOLARSHIP Larry (AA1FS) Nothing to report

TECHNICAL

Tim (N1TI) reported that the camera will soon have a new computer here at the club needs more memory. Will provide better performance.

RADIO

Bob (K1KVV) reported that no kids showed up for kids day at the club. Bob (K1KVV) while waiting did make several contacts the first of which was from South Africa. Ben (N1WBV) actually made the contact. Ben actually was a visitor who came in to checkout the club equipment.

Bob (K1KVV) also notified everyone that there are several Contests coming up soon and should participate.

WEBSITE

Tim (N1TI) reported that the new website structure is underway and should be up and running by March.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike (KB1NB) spoke about the rolling motions for this year.

He made a motion to authorize \$20.00/ month for coffee, donuts and soda, \$50.00/month for Treasurer's account, Building and Grounds and Technical Committee. The motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

GOOD OF THE CLUB

Bob (K1KVV) asked anyone for information, news or pictures so that he could report it in the *ZERO BEAT*.

Mike (KB1NB) reported that we now have a new insurance policy and that it covers property damage.

Discussed the need to update the membership list. We should also update the Board of Directors list for notification.

It was suggested that this year would be good to have a Field Day.

There was also a suggestion to purchase a manual tuner for the club. The technical committee will research and advise at a later date.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcel, WIMLD

50/50 RAFFLE

Won by Mike (KB1NB): \$15.00/ \$15.00

VE SESSIONS

Walk-ins permitted unless otherwise noted.

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

SEMARA – 10:30AM **Apr 4th**

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

Canton, MA – 7:30PM **Mar 19**

Louis D Harris-N1UEC
N1UEC@n1uec.org
 508-668-0858

Cranston RI – 9:00AM **Feb 28th**

Kenneth Carr-KB1AWV
KB1AWV@yahoo.com
 401-828-1665

Falmouth, MA – 9:00AM **Mar 14th**

W. Ben Fleck-K2LYE
BenFleck@cape.com
 508-540-2583

N. Smithfield, RI – 7:00PM **Mar 11th**

Robert Beudet-W1YRC
W1YRC@arrl.org
 401-333-21290

Providence, RI – 7:00PM **Mar 12th**

Louis Mester-W1CH
W1CH@arrl.net
 401-263-6045

SOME CONTESTS

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

Feb 21 0000Z - Feb 22 0000Z **AM QSO Party** *AM phone* www.antiquewireless.org

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

Feb 27 2200Z - Mar 1 2200Z **CQ WW 160 Meter** *phone* www.CQ160.com

Feb 28 1300Z - Mar 1 1300Z **UBA Contest** *CW* www.uba.be

Feb 28 1500Z - Mar 1 0300Z **Mississippi QSO Party** *phone+CW* www.arrlmiss.org

Feb 28 1800Z - Mar 1 0600Z **North American QSO Party** *digital* www.ncjweb.com

Feb 28 2200Z - Mar 1 0359Z **CQC Winter QSO Party** *phone+CW* www.cqc.org

Mar 1 1700Z - Mar 2 0300Z **North Carolina QSO Party** *phone+CW* www.w4nc.com

Mar 3 1100Z - Mar 3 1700Z **DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona"** *digital* <http://www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport/>

Mar 7 0000Z - Mar 8 2400Z **ARRL International DX** *phone* www.arrl.org/contests

Mar 7 2200Z - Mar 8 1200Z **Open Ukraine RTTY Championship** *digital* www.ucc.zp.ua

Mar 14 0000Z - Mar 15 2359Z **Heavy Metal Rally** *phone+CW* www.xe1rcq.org

Mar 14 1000Z - Mar 15 1000Z **RSGB Commonwealth Contest** *CW* www.rsgbhfcc.org

Mar 14 1400Z - Mar 14 2000Z **AGCW QRP Contest** *CW* www.agcw.org

Mar 14 1600Z - Mar 15 1600Z **EA PSK31 Contest** *digital* www.ure.es

Mar 14 1900Z - Mar 15 1900Z **Idaho QSO Party** *phone+CW+digital* www.nx7tt.com

Mar 15 0000Z - Mar 15 0400Z **North American RTTY Sprint** *digital* www.ncjweb.com

Mar 15 1800Z - Mar 16 0100Z **Wisconsin QSO Party** *phone+CW+digital* www.warac.org

COMING FLEAS & FESTS

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

28 Feb **Hamfest** Colchester VT
 RANV Mitch W1SJ—802 879 6589

7 Mar **21st Ann. Hamfest** Feeding Hills, MA
 Mt. Tom ARA Cindy—413-568-1175

14 Mar **Flea Market** Rockport, MA
 Cape Ann ARA Dick—508-269-4941

21 Mar **Hamfest** Pomfret, CT
 Eastern CT ARA Paul—860-928-2456

22 Mar **26th Ann. Flea** Southington, CT
 Southington ARACHet—860-628-9346

29 Mar **Framingham Flea** Framingham, MA
 Framingham ARABev—508-626-2012

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 - 67.01	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
147.000+ SEMARA 67.0* WIAEC 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+ 131.82	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
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>

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

Which amateur band restricts communication to specific channels, using only USB voice, and prohibits all other modes, including CW and data? D. 60 meters [11 meters is citizens band.]

ANSWER: SUDOKU

Word: Bountiful

L	D	N	T	I	B	O	U	F
O	U	I	D	N	F	L	B	T
T	B	F	O	U	L	N	D	I
N	L	T	I	B	O	D	F	U
I	O	D	F	T	U	B	N	L
U	F	B	L	D	N	T	I	O
B		O	I	N	F	T	U	L
D	T	U	B	L	I	F	O	N
F	N	L	U	O	D	I	T	B