



ZERO BEAT

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



Since 1932

Volume 48 Issue 12

SEMARA-W1AEC

December 2012

Election - 2013

Nominations for 2013 Officers, Board of Directors, and Trustee.

A nominating committee was not established in advance this year. At the November business meeting, nominations were opened and then closed until the December Business Meeting. Nominations will be reopened then and additions/subtractions will be made before the official vote.

SEMARA Election Day is Thursday, December 6, 2012.

Voting will take place at the end of the 7:00 PM business meeting.

Here are the nominees:



President:

Marcel L. Dumont, W1MLD

Vice-President:

Joseph E. Krisnosky, Jr., N1IXC

Secretary:

Marc M. Dumont, KB1ODE

Treasurer:

Michael J. McDonald, KB1NB

Board of Directors (vote for three):

Andrew J. Reuter, WA1FNM

Eric J. Pierce, N1WCO

Armand F. Augustine, W1BUG

Trustee (vote for one) [5 Year Term; Chairman in 2017]:

Henry R. Blanchett, Jr., W1GYL

David G. Dean, K1JGV



(from our website: semara.org)

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2011 SEMARA OFFICERS

President
Marcel Dumont—W1MLD
Vice President
Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC
Secretary
Marc Dumont—KB1ODE
Treasurer
Mike McDonald—KB1NB

Directors:

Andy Reuter—WA1FNM
Brad Paiva—W1BEP
John Walsh—WA1LSH

Trustees: (year term is up)

Henry Blanchett—W1GYL (2012) ch.
John Walsh—WA1LSH (2013)
Louis Mester—W1CH (2014)
Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC (2015)
Dick Halliwell—K1AHA (2016)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Building and Grounds
Marty Jordan—KA1YFV
Tony Lessa—KB1UAM

Scholarship

Sonny Eddleston—K1USW – chair
Chuck Moszczenski—KB1FRL
Alan Dulong—WB1FQP
Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC

Technical/Repeater/Website

Dave Goldstein—W1DJG: Technical
Rick Cabral—W1RJC: Repeater
Rick Cabral—W1RJC: Website
Ben Jackson—N1WBV: facebook

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Activities
VACANT

ARES/SKYWARN/RACES(ACS)
Rob Macedo—KD1CY

QSL Manager
John Nery—WA1ESO

Radio Events
Bob Kelley—K1KVV

Tech Talk
Brad Paiva—W1BEP

It seems to me ... de Bob - K1KVV, Editor

that we need more folks who are willing to become leaders. It seems that it has taken forever to get things done lately. Thankfully we do have a few who are willing to lead and take the criticism such as, "I wouldn't have done it that way." And, of course, it would have never gotten done at all!

You all be sure to turn out for the Potluck Christmas Party at the clubhouse on Thursday, December 20. Doors open at 6:30 PM and eating starts at 7:00 PM. Oyez, there's a \$5 gift exchange if you wish to participate. Please print out your own flyer (p. 8) to put on the frig door. See you there?



ARRL Bulletin 25
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT November 1, 2012

To all radio amateurs

ARLB025 ARRL Requests Hams Do Not Self-Deploy to Areas Affected by Hurricane Sandy

Amateur Radio operators who want to assist those Sections affected by Hurricane Sandy should not self-deploy to those areas. "There are many ARRL Sections involved in the impact area, and each has different requirements on how they locate, credential and deploy volunteers," explained ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager **Mike Corey, KI1U**. "If a need for manpower is identified that cannot be met locally or in the Section, Section leadership may contact other Sections for assistance. If the need is still not met, Section leadership may then contact ARRL HQ for assistance."

**POINT TO PONDER**

"The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge,
but imagination."

~Albert Einstein

HAMMIN' AROUND

Question* G9D10 Which of the following is a Yagi antenna design variable that could be adjusted to optimize forward gain, front-to-back ratio, or SWR bandwidth?

- A. The physical length of the boom
- B. The number of elements on the boom
- C. The spacing of each element along the boom
- D. All of these choices are correct

* 2015 Element 3 General Class Question Pool (good thru 2015-06-30)

Answer on page 3.

Club Notes

December is the month when great things happen! I might as well be optimistic, being pessimistic doesn't seem to get me anywhere.



Please take notice of the Hurricane Sandy announcement on p.2 put out by the ARRL. Sounds like we need to start thinking of getting some EmComm training locally.



This month I have loaded the pages with lots of radio activities. I won't list them - I want it to be a surprise.

Need help getting into some of these events? Don't be shy - just yell on the reflector for help, advice, or whatever. There's always someone willing to tell you what to do.



VE session dates for WIAEC-SEMARA in Dartmouth, MA:

Feb 2, 2013

Apr 6, 2013

Jun 1, 2013

Aug 3, 2013

Oct 5, 2013

Dec 7, 2013

These are all Saturdays, at 10:30am.

*Thank you!
Larry Houbre
AA1FS*



NEXT VE SESSION @ SEMARA

December 1, 2012

Clubhouse @ 10:30 AM

Contact: Larry Houbre-AA1FS

[exams\[at\]semara\[dot\]org](mailto:exams[at]semara[dot]org)

508-991-6055



Club Numbers

GPS Coordinates:

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

Maidenhead Grid Coordinates: FN41mo

For FISTS Sprints: FISTS #10555

LOCAL NETS

Everyone is welcome to check in!

147.000+ (PL 67.0 Hz) (FM) — Massachusetts RACES/ACS Drill (Region 2, Sector A) is held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 PM.

50.200 MHz (USB) — Net is held Wednesdays at 8:30 PM. **Dick, K1AHA** (Dartmouth) is net control.

28.490 MHz (USB) — Net is held Tuesdays at 8:30 PM. **Dick, K1AHA** (Dartmouth) is net control.

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

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORIES

See <http://www.nerepeaters.com/se.htm>

144 (<http://www.nerepeaters.com/2m.htm>)

222 (<http://www.nerepeaters.com/222.htm>)

440 (<http://www.nerepeaters.com/440.htm>)

902 (<http://www.nerepeaters.com/902.htm>)

Answer: HAMMIN' AROUND

Which of the following is a Yagi antenna design variable that could be adjusted to optimize forward gain, front-to-back ratio, or SWR bandwidth? (D) The physical length of the boom, The number of elements on the boom, The spacing of each element along the boom - All of these choices are correct.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

BUSINESS MEETING

First THURSDAY of the month @ 7 pm

Sunday RAGCHEW

7-10 am

Thursday COFFEE CROWD

Dunkin Donuts @ Bliss Corner, Dart. @ 1 pm

Friday LUNCH BUNCH

Leave for LUNCH at 12 noon

Gather @ clubhouse before 12
or phone/call ahead

Official Meeting Minutes



November 1, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the President, **Marcel (W1MLD)** with salute to the flag. The roll was called with 16 members and 0 guests present.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to dispense reading the Secretary's Report and accept as posted on the board and in *Zero Beat*.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, **Mike (KB1NB)** reported monies received of \$4021, expenses of \$3195 with a total of \$51,237 available. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to refer the Treasurer's Report to audit.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Technical

Marcel (W1MLD) referred to an email from **Rick (W1RJG)** reporting the the 900 Mhz and 220 Mhz repeater systems are back online and connected to IRLP.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ARES, RACES, SKYWARN

Joe K. (N1IXC) thanked all who checked in during hurricane Sandy. He also reported that Mike Nielsen, RACES Director (Acting) has resigned, and reminded members of the upcoming RACES drill coming this Monday at 19:30 hrs on 147.00.

Radio Events

Bob (K1KVV) mentioned several events and referred members to *Contest Corral* and *Zero Beat* for information.

Repeater

Marcel (W1MLD) mentioned the 147.00 repeater lately being connected to a repeater in Alaska for an extended amount of time. Discussion that followed suggested that this should be disconnected if no activity is present.

OLD BUSINESS

The President, **Marcel (W1MLD)** spoke of several issues as follows:

Log Periodic antenna: Parts are in to complete repair of the antenna and progress is being made on the rotor and connectors. The reinstall will also be coordinated with Allen for use of the crane.

Short Tower: A new rotor will be purchased and use of

a lift to set the antenna will be scheduled as all parts for repair are in.

New Building: NETCOM takes control of the building on November 5, then we will be able to enter and view the building. Plans regarding foundation may also be available.

NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion regarding a Christmas Party for members and their families. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to have a Potluck Supper Party on Thursday, December 20, 2012 at 19:00 hrs.

There was also discussion regarding SEMARA sponsored VE sessions. Progress has been made and **Fred (N1TF)** is the VE Coordinator for SEMARA.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB

Eric (N1WCO) mentioned the possibility of hosting a Flea Market, possibly on a Saturday in the spring. There was discussion on improving and generating vendors and interest in the event.

NOMINATIONS AND VOTING

Nominations for 2013 Offices were as follows:

President: **Marcel (W1MLD)**

Vice President: **Joe K. (N1IXC)**

Treasurer: **Mike (KB1NB)**

Secretary: **Marc (KB1ODE)**

Directors (1 year term): **Andy (WA1FNM)**, **Eric (N1WCO)**, **Armand (W1BUG)**

Trustee (5 year term): **Henry (W1GYL)**, **Dave (K1JGV)**

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to close the night's nominations and reopen during the December Business Meeting.

ADJOURN

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to adjourn at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marc M. Dumont (KB1ODE), *Secretary*

50/50 RAFFLE

The 50/50 raffle was won by **Armand (W1BUG)**. The split was \$10.00/\$10.00.

SEMARA News

2 for 1 on 10-meters

Do both the ARRL and the FARA events and get credit in both. Nothing like double-dipping! Check it out here.



The ARRL 10 Meter Contest: The Band Is Hot!

Will it be possible to beat the 2011 running of the ARRL 10 Meter Contest? With more than 5300 logs received and worldwide openings last year, that may be a tall order. During the CQ WW CW Contest, 10 meters was in great shape, despite a coronal mass ejection that hit on Friday evening. But according to ARRL Contest Branch Manager **Sean Kutzko, KX9X**, one thing's for certain: There's going to be a ton of activity, as hams from all around the world look to work some DX on the band!

In the US, Novice and Technician class operators can get in on the fun, too. Both classes are permitted SSB operation between 28.3-28.5 MHz with 150 W. If you don't have an antenna for 10 meters, build one yourself! A dipole for 28.4 MHz is about 16.5 feet long – build it and get it up in the air as high as you possibly can. “This is an easy construction project and you will work stations, especially with band conditions like this,” Kutzko explained. “Quite simply, this is a weekend you don't want to miss!”

Single Operator entrants can use either CW only or SSB only – or a mixture of both. They can choose between High Power, Low Power (150 W or less) or QRP (5 W or less). Want to share the fun with your friends? Invite them over and enter in the Multioperator category. Stations that operate as a Single Operator are not allowed to use any spotting network; if Single Operator stations wish to use spotting networks, they will be entered in the Multioperator, Single Transmitter category. Even though this is a 48-hour contest, all stations – be they Single or Multi Operator – can only work 36 of the 48 hours. This means that operators will have to plan the best strategy to be on the air at the right time to take advantage of the propagation.

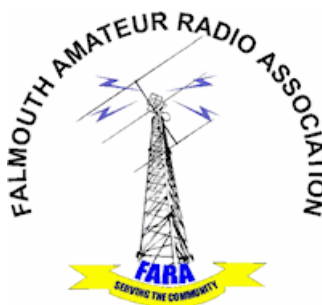
In 2010, the ARRL added the 32 Mexican states as multipliers in the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. “Activity from our friends in Mexico spiked in 2010 as a result of the inclusion of Mexican states, and there's every indication there will be even more activity from these stations in 2012, providing even more stations to work and increase your score,” Kutzko said. For a list of the Mexican states and their abbreviations, as well as

information on how “rare” each state is, download this free map, provided by Grupo DXXE.

All stations will send their signal report – RS(T) – as part of the contest exchange. In addition, stations in the US (including Alaska and Hawaii) and Canada will send their state or province as part of the exchange; stations in the District of Columbia stations will send DC. Mexican stations will also send their state. DX stations (including KH2, KP4 and such) will also send a sequential serial number starting with 001. Maritime mobile stations will also send their ITU Region (R1, R2 or R3).

The ARRL 10 Meter Contest runs from 0000Z Saturday, December 8 through 2359Z Sunday, December 9. Logs must be e-mailed or postmarked no later than 2359Z Wednesday, January 9, 2013. Paper logs should be sent to ARRL 10 Meter Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

FARA QSO Party #4 10 Meter Activity



**December 9, 2012:
0900 EST (1400Z) –
1900 EST (0000Z)**

Purpose: To work as many amateur stations on the 10 meter band as possible within the time allowed. The FARA operating event is open to all license classes. Frequencies

for the FARA QSO party are limited to the novice & technician sub-bands, see below. *The event runs in parallel with the ARRL 10 Meter contest* so there should be a number of stations to contact. See the ARRL rules on this page for detailed information.

FARA Rules: All contacts made in the ARRL contest will count towards the FARA QSO Party (& visa-versa). The scoring and entry categories have been *simplified for the FARA QSO Party*. There are no single/multi-op categories in the FARA scoring, multi-op is encouraged. The multipliers are the same as the ARRL contest, details below.

There are no restrictions on power (please abide by your license class limitations), the score is scaled based upon your actual power.

Exchange: Send your RS(T) report and your state, CW - 599 MA, Phone - 59 MA.

(Continued on page 6)

SEMARA News (cont.)

Kids Day — 2013 Sunday, January 6

Kids Day always runs from 1800Z (1:00 PM) through 2359Z (7:59 PM). Operate as much as you like.

Kids Day is an on-air event to encourage young people (licensed or not) to have fun with Amateur Radio. It is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children.

Call “CQ Kids Day” and let the youngsters loose! QSOs start with exchanging their **name, age, location, and favorite color**. Next over they can talk about their favorite sport, class, or anything else that’s on their mind—like how much fun they are having talking without worrying about the minutes. Be sure to work the same station again if an operator has changed. To draw attention, call **“CQ Kids Day.”** Give them a fun on-the-air experience and hopefully it will result in their getting their own license. Share your love for Amateur Radio. See <http://www.arrrl.org/kids-day> and download their own certificate.

You can also use your favorite favorite 2M repeater (with permission of the repeater’s sponsor).

Be sure to observe third-party restrictions when making DX QSOs.

Suggested frequencies

Straight Key Night 2013

Every day is a good day to send CW, but January 1 is reserved for Straight Key Night. Enjoy CW as it has been sent and enjoyed since the earliest days of Amateur Radio.

This 24-hour event is **not a contest**; rather it is a day dedicated to celebrating our CW heritage. Participants are encouraged to get on the air and simply make enjoyable, conversational CW QSOs. The use of straight keys or bugs to send CW is preferred. There are no points scored and all who participate are winners.

Straight Key Night is held every January 1 from 0000Z through 2359Z. All authorized Amateur frequencies may be used, but activity has traditionally been centered on the HF bands.

Entries for SKN 2013 must be received by January 31, 2013. Votes for ‘Best Fist’ and ‘Most Interesting QSO’ will be tabulated and included in the results.

For contest information contact [contest \[at\] arrrl \[dot\] org](mailto:contest[at]arrrl[dot]org) or (860) 594-0232

10 Meters: 28.350 to 28.400 MHz

12 Meters: 24.960 to 24.980 MHz

15 Meters: 21.360 to 21.400 MHz

17 Meters: 18.140 to 18.145 MHz

20 Meters: 14.270 to 14.300 MHz

40 Meters: 7.270 to 7.290 MHz

80 Meters: 3.740 to 3.940 MHz

(FARA QSO Party continued from page 5)

Multipliers: US States & District of Columbia (51), Canadian providences (14), Mexican states (32), DXCC countries (excludes US, Canada & Mexico), ITU regions (maritime mobile only). These are identical to the ARRL rules – see the ARRL rules for a complete list. *Contacts with FARA members count for an additional 100 points/contact.*

Modes: Phone (Upper Side Band) and CW count equally, *there is no CW advantage* (compared to the ARRL contest). Mixed mode scores are acceptable.

Power Factor (PF): For the purpose of the FARA QSO Party Frequencies, there is a contact multiplier based upon your power as follows: Novice & Technician sub bands on 10M

< 10 Watts, PF = 3 28.000 – 28.300 CW

< 150 Watts, PF = 2 28.300 – 28.500 Phone

> 150 Watts, PF = 1

> 1500 Watts, PF = 0

Use 2M, 146.655, to coordinate contacts

FARA Score: = (Total Contacts x Mult x PF) + (FARA Contacts x 100)

For Example; K1AIR has the following entry ... 650 Phone & 100 CW contacts, running 100 watts with contacts in 25 US states, 10 providences, and 5 Mexican states. Along with 30 additional countries. He also worked 10 FARA members. Multipliers = 25+10+5+30 = 70.

Please submit only your summary score. K1AIR score = (750 x 70 x 2) + (10 x 100), Total Score = 106000

Logs: Must be received by 18 December, 2012.

Send report to: [FARACapeCod\[at\] gmail \[dot\]com](mailto:FARACapeCod[at]gmail[dot]com) or Falmouth Amateur Radio Association, Box 815, West Falmouth, MA 02574

Get those 10 meter antennas up now. Get on the air and make some contacts. Invite someone without an HF rig over to operate!! Put K1AIR on the air!

Henry Brown (K1WCC)

Some Radio Events

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

Dec 8, 0000Z - Dec 9, 2400Z 28

ARRL 10 Meter Contest

www.arrl.org/contests

See p. 5 for details

Dec 11, 0000Z - Dec 17, 0200Z 50-222

NA High-Speed Meteor Scatter Contest

www.meteorscatter.org

WSJT software needed

Dec 16, 1800Z - Dec 16, 2359Z 3.5-28

ARRLRookie Roundup

www.arrl.org/contests

CW event - replaces old Novice Roundup

Dec 21, 0001Z - Jan 8, 2359Z 1.8-28 50-144

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party

arlhs.com

One of a series of non-contests

Jan 1, 0000Z - Jan 1, 2400Z 3.5-28 50+

ARRL Straight Key Night

www.arrl.org/contests

An annual non-contest to promote CW

Jan 6, 1800Z - Jan 6, 2359Z 3.5-28 50,144

ARRL Kids Day - 2013

www.arrl.org/kids-day

Another non-contest, see p. 5 for details



Local VE Sessions

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

find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session

Walk-ins permitted unless otherwise noted.

SEMARA – 10:30 AM

Dec 1st

Larry Houbre-AA1FS

<exams [at] semara [dot]



org>

508-991-6055

Falmouth, MA – 9:00 AM

Dec 8th

W. Ben Fleck-K2LYE

<BenFleck [at] verizon [dot] net>

508-540-2583

Providence, RI – 7:00 PM

Dec 13th

Louis Mester-W1CH

<W1CH [at] arrl [dot] net>

401-263-6045

Coming FLEAS & FESTS

www.arrl.org/hamfests/search

- 9 Feb **Springfield, VT**
CVFMA Dave K1ZS 603-446-7312
- 16 Feb **Marlboro, MA**
AARC Timothy KA1OS 508-919-6136
- 17 Feb **Westford, MA**
NEARC RadioXLIV Bruce 603-772-7516
- 23 Feb **S Burlington, VT**
HAM-CON Mitch W1SJ 802-879-6589
- 2 Mar **Feeding Hills MA**
MtTARA Mary N1TOY 413-222-1990
- 3 Mar **Hicksville NY**
LIMARC Richard K2KNB 516-694-4937
- 29,30 Mar **Lewiston ME**
AARC ME Conv Ivan N1OXA 207-784-0350
- 7 April **Southington CT**
SARA Norm W3IZ 860-584-1403
- 7 April **Framingham MA**
FARA Bev N1LOO 508-626-2012
- 21 April **Cambridge MA**
FLEA at MIT Nick 617-253-3776
- 3,4 May **Deerfield NH**
NEARFest XIII Mike K1TWF 978-250-

Come One – Come All



Let's make the Holidays Really Joyous this Year

Your **Southeastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association** is sponsoring a **POT LUCK** Christmas Family Get Together

Meet some new friends and/or renew some old ones . . .

SEMARA is the place (*54 Donald St., Dartmouth*) and **December 20th, 2012** is the date. It's **POT LUCK** so bring your favorite family dish to share

This is a Family Get Together . . . all are welcome

Time: **Doors Open** **6:30 PM**
 Dinner **7:00 PM**

For those who want to participate; there will be a gift exchange! Maximum value is \$5.00. Bring One To Get One.



Coffee and Sodas are Provided. There will be Door Prizes
Please RSVP to n1tf@live.com