



# ZERO BEAT

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



Since 1932

Volume 49 Issue 1

SEMARA-W1AEC

January 2013

## Happy New Year



### Incoming 2013 Officers, Board of Directors, and Trustee.

SEMARA Election Day was Thursday, December 6, 2012.

**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:**

Andrew J. Reuter, WA1FNM

David G. Dean, K1JGV

Eric J. Pierce, N1WCO

**Trustee (5 Year Term, Chairman in 2017):**

Bradford E. Paiva, W1BEP

**ZERO BEAT**

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**2013 SEMARA OFFICERS****President**

Marcel Dumont—W1MLD

**Vice President**

Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC

**Secretary**

Marc Dumont—KB1ODE

**Treasurer**

Mike McDonald—KB1NB

**Directors:**

Andy Reuter—WA1FNM

Dave Dean—K1JGV

Eric Pierce—N1WCO

**Trustees: (year term is up)**

John Walsh—WA1LSH (2013) (ch)

Louis Mester—W1CH (2014)

Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC (2015)

Dick Halliwell—K1AHA (2016)

Brad Paiva—W1BEP (2017)

**STANDING COMMITTEES****Building and Grounds**

Marty Jordan—KA1YFV

Tony Lessa—KB1UAM

**Scholarship**

Sonny Eddleston—K1USW – chair

Chuck Moszczanski—KB1FRL

Alan Dulong—WB1FQP

Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC

**Technical/Repeater/Web**

VACANT – Technical (chair):

Rick Cabral—W1RJC: Repeater

Rick Cabral—W1RJC: Web

**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 practice of amateur radio techniques in our club.

You've heard this before. But I think it needs repeating.

- A. I am looking forward to the re-establishment of a separate radio shack.
- B. I am looking to the re-installation of the Sommers Log-Yagi on the 80-ft tower.
- C. I am looking forward to the replacement of the rotator for the small tri-bander on the clubhouse roof.
- D. I am looking forward to re introducing radio activities at the clubhouse.
  1. Public events showcasing amateur radio as a hobby for everyone.
  2. Introduction to emergency communications.
  3. Introduction to satellite communications.
  4. Open house events for young people and their families.

How about achieving a new atmosphere around the clubhouse?

- I. Let's start with regular club-wide cookouts - once a season.
- II. Let's start with revitalizing our nets - just for the practice.
- III. Let's start offering license classes – new and upgrade.
- IV. Let's start paying our way – how many free donuts and coffee do you get for the \$20 lifetime membership fees?
- V. Let's start using our repeater resources – there are new rigs available for 220 MHz and 900 MHz bands.

Last, but not least – how about re-instituting annual dues so we can tell who is really interested in helping SEMARA grow as an amateur radio club. Don't forget to renew your ARRL membership.

**POINT TO PONDER**

“There will come a time when you believe everything is finished.  
That will be the beginning.”

~ Louis L'amour

**HAMMIN' AROUND**

**Question\* G0A11** What precaution should you take if you install an indoor transmitting antenna?

- A. Locate the antenna close to your operating position to minimize feed-line radiation
- B. Position the antenna along the edge of a wall to reduce parasitic radiation
- C. Make sure that MPE limits are not exceeded in occupied areas
- D. No special precautions are necessary if SSB and CW are the only modes used

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

Answer on page 4.

# Official Meeting Minutes



**December 6, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by the President, **Marcel (W1MLD)** with salute to the flag. The roll was called with 20 members and 2 guests present.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's report was read. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to approve the report.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Monies received this past month totaled \$2830, expenses totaled \$766 leaving total in accounts of \$54,067.00. The NETCOM balance is \$13,824.71 to date.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Technical

There was some discussion regarding past abuse of the 147.00 repeater being connected to a node recently. Discussion continued regarding procedure should this occur again. There was also discussion about interest in the Tech. Committee and restructuring.

### Scholarship

**Sonny (K1USW)** reported that letters went out to all schools in the area and he will follow up with calls shortly in order to increase interest in applicants.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### Radio Events

**Bob (K1KVV)** noted that the upcoming month would be very good for contests and referred to postings in *Zero Beat* and ARRL's website.

**Fred (N1TF)** also mentioned a *Pearl Harbor Day* event where several battleships would be on the air.

## RATIFICATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Two applications for Life Membership were received. **Michael Driscoll (N1KXC)** and **Richard Orluk (K1XRN)** both submitted applications. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept them as life members.

## OLD BUSINESS

The President, **Marcel (W1MLD)** mentioned that

work was almost complete on the large antenna.

He also advised that Nextel had cut off all power to the building in the back but still needed to remove all equipment. Once that is complete it will be possible to enter to assess plans and negotiation for the building as an addition. A foundation would need to be designed and plans to move the building, as well as using the crane to replace the antenna would need to be coordinated as well.

**Fred (N1TF)** also mentioned that he needed a count for the upcoming party as well as a list of dishes to be brought.

## NOMINATIONS AND VOTING

Nominations were reopened for 2013 elected positions. Motions were made, seconded and unanimously approved to close nominations afterward. The resulting ballot was as follows:

**President: Marcel Dumont (W1MLD)**

**Vice President: Joe Krisnosky (N1IXC)**

**Secretary: Marc Dumont (KB1ODE)**

**Treasurer: Mike McDonald (KB1NB)**

**Directors: Andrew Reuter (WA1FNM), Eric Pierce (N1WCO), David Dean (K1JGV)**

**Trustee: Brad Paiva (W1BEP)**

After some discussion a motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted for the Secretary to cast one vote for all positions. The Secretary cast one ballot and the above nominations were voted into office for 2013.

## ADJOURN

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Marc M. Dumont (KB1ODE), Secretary**



### 50/50 RAFFLE

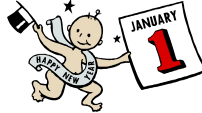
The 50/50 raffle was won by **Don Mara (WA1PLT)**. The split was \$22.00/\$22.00.

# Club Notes

**January** is the month when great things will happen! I am optimistic that obtaining a separate radio room along with getting the directional antennas operating will give the club a boost.



Just look at the variety of radio events for this month. **Kids Day - 2013** is an easy event (non-contest) that can be used to introduce young people to amateur radio. What say? Are you in?



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.



Two new members were accepted as Life Members at the Dec.6, 2012 business meeting:

**Michael Driscoll (N1KXC)** and  
**Richard Orluk (K1XRN)**.

*Welcome to the club!*



If you glance at the last page, you'll notice that none of the local clubs have scheduled VE sessions.

Should SEMARA re-evaluate it's even month schedule?

Do we need to offer *upgrade* classes and accompanying VE sessions?

Perhaps we can look ahead to the **Spring Hamfest** and use an additional VE Session as a draw.

What say? Dare we be pro-active?



## 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 RAC-ES/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

*What precaution should you take if you install an indoor transmitting antenna? (C) Make sure that MPE limits are not exceeded in occupied areas.*

## 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

## NEXT VE SESSION @ SEMARA

February 2, 2013

Clubhouse @ 10:30 AM

Contact: Larry Houbre-AA1FS

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

508-991-6055



# SEMARA News

## Ray Dickinson - N1BBJ (SK)

Raymond Irving Dickinson, 94, N1BBJ of Middletown, CT, husband of Joan (Petrofsky) Dickinson, passed away on Monday, December 3, 2012 at Apple Rehab of Middletown. Born in Middletown, he was the son of the late Irving and Julia (Abrahamson) Dickinson.

Ray was a member of Middlesex Amateur Radio Society, and *life member of SEMARA Club* in Dartmouth, MA. Ray was an avid ham radio operator known worldwide by his call sign N1BBJ.

Ray had great love for his family and those that knew him will remember his wonderful sense of humor and his passion for singing.

We send our sympathy to his family for their loss.

*May he rest in peace.*

\* Obituary based on Doolittle Funeral Home website.



## Lawrence Lygren - W1DBX (SK)

Lawrence Lygren, 67, W1DBX (formerly WB1DBX) died Thursday, December 27, 2012 at the New Bedford Healthcare Center after a long battle with cancer. He was the husband of Danielle (Racine) Lygren.



Larry joined SEMARA in 1975 and became an amateur radio operator back in 1976. He was the original owner and builder of the 145.490 Fairhaven repeater in 1985. He also enjoyed HF and was an early adopter of digital modes such as packet in the 1980s. He was known for experimenting with new aspects of the hobby along with longtime friend Sonny (W1ESG, SK).

Larry worked for Tremblay's Bus Company in New Bedford for many years along with his wife Danielle (KA1BHH) and more recently at Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA) before retiring. He had lived in New Bedford for most of his life and had just recently moved to Acushnet.

We send our sympathy to his family for their loss.

*May he rest in peace.*

## SEMARA Potluck Xmas Party

**Thursday, Dec. 20 at the clubhouse.**

Did you turn out for the Potluck Christmas Party at the clubhouse on Thursday, December 20? Doors opened at 6:30 PM and eating started at 7:00 PM. And there was a \$5 gift exchange for those who wished to participate.



Our thanks go to Fred, N1TF who organized this family event. Needless to say, "A good time was had by all."

The following are a few random pictures of the party scene.



**DAVE-K1JGV, FRED-N1TF, AND ERIC-N1WCO**



# SEMARA News (cont.)

## More Pictures of Xmas Party People



# SEMARA News (cont.)

## Meet the 75 meter band\*

**“a reliable friend year in and year out”**

THIS BAND IS USEFUL DURING THE ENTIRE 11 YEAR SOLAR CYCLE

The 80/75 meter amateur band covers 3.5 to 4.0 MHz. The ARRL Frequency Chart shows us that this band is clearly a more complicated place to operate than the 160 meter band, where everyone with a General license or above has the same privileges and modes are not restricted to band segments. On 80/75 meters there are *restrictions by license class*. Novice and Technician licensees have **200 watt CW privileges** in a limited portion of 80 meters, while General and Advanced licensees have their own respective limitations in both the CW and phone segments of 80/75. CW, RTTY, and data are allowed below 3.6 MHz. Phone and image are allowed from 3.6 to 4.0 MHz.

A typical dipole antenna used on the 80/75 meter band is about a half-wavelength long, but because this band extends along a fairly wide portion of frequency spectrum, we do sometimes talk about an "80 meter dipole," which is tuned for the CW portion of the band and is thus a bit longer - around 130 feet. Note that this is about 40 meters, or a half-wave on the 80 meter band. Many operators prefer to spend more time in the phone segment of the band, so they would prefer a "75 meter dipole." This antenna is cut for a slightly shorter wavelength and a higher frequency, perhaps around 123 feet.

What can you expect to hear if you tune around the 80/75 meter band? If you are listening during the daylight hours, you can hear distant stations until the sun gets higher in the sky and absorption kills any chance of DX. The band will still often be useful for shorter distance regional communications, perhaps a statewide net. A dipole antenna with a high angle of radiation is ideal for this kind of communication. Once the sun sets, 80/75 starts to "go long". Stations from many hundreds, even sometimes thousands, of miles will now be heard. You can count on hearing stations in the southern states from here in Minnesota with no problem at all. As is the case with 160 meters, the winter months tend to be best for using 80/75 because there are more hours of darkness and the band will be open for long distance skip more hours, and because in the winter there is less interfering static (QRN) from thunderstorms.

You can **Work All States** on 80/75 more easily than you can on 160 m, but those who prefer to meet on a less-crowded band for a casual roundtable conversation are heard every day and through the night and early morning hours.

*Patrick Tice, WA0TDA  
Handiham Manager*

\* *Courage Center Handiham World Weekly E-Letter*

## Annual SEMARA Tailgate Fleamarket

**Saturday May 11 2013**

"Hello All:

Just an FYI for all interested. The Annual SEMARA Tailgate Flea Market *will happen this spring!*

Set-Up at 8:00 AM – Open 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Admissions are as follows:

- ⇒ Vendors: \$10.00 for a table
- ⇒ General Admission: \$2.00  
[Club Members And Children under 12 free.]

If there is sufficient participation, there will also be door prizes and a raffle. This will be announced.

Talk-In on SEMARA repeaters:

147.000 (PL 67.0) and 224.800 (PL 67.0)

For more information, contact

Eric-N1WCO at [n1wco \[at\] aol \[dot\] com](mailto:n1wco@comcast.net).

73 de *Eric-N1WCO*

\* *Eric posted this on the Southeastern Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association's facebook page.*



## Marconi Special Event\*

**QRV January 18-19, 2013**

The *Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club*, KM1CC plans to conduct a special event operation to commemorate the *110th anniversary* of Marconi's first trans-Atlantic transmission from the USA to Europe.

Barring a blizzard, the group will be QRV on January 18-19.

\* *ARRL EMA Section News - Jan. 2013*

## Some Radio Events

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

Jan 1, 0000Z - Jan 1, 2400Z 3.5-28 50+  
**ARRL Straight Key Night (CW)**

[www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

*Annual non-contest event to promote CW*

Jan 5, 0000Z - Jan 5, 2400Z 3.5-28  
**070 PSKFest (PSK31)**

[www.podxs070.com](http://www.podxs070.com)

Jan 6, 1800Z - Jan 6, 2400Z 3.5-28 50,144  
**ARRL Kids Day - 2013 (Ph)**

[www.arrl.org/kids-day](http://www.arrl.org/kids-day)

*A non-contest event, see website for details*

Jan 6, 1800Z - Jan 6, 2400Z 3.5-28  
**ARRL RTTY Roundup (RTTY)**

[www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

Jan 12, 1200Z - Jan 13, 2400Z 3.5-28 50  
**MI QRP Club (CW)**

[www.miqrp.org](http://www.miqrp.org)

Jan 12, 1200Z - Jan 13, 1200Z 3.5-28  
**UK DX RTTY Contest (RTTY)**

[www.ukdx.srars.org](http://www.ukdx.srars.org)

Jan 12, 1800Z - Jan 13, 0600Z 1.8-28  
**North American QSO Party (CW)**

[www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php](http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php)

Jan 19, 0000Z - Jan 20, 2400Z 1.8-28  
**YLISSB QSO Party (Ph)**

[www.ylssystem.org](http://www.ylssystem.org)

Jan 19, 1800Z - Jan 20, 0600Z 3.5-28  
**North American QSO Party (Ph)**

[www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php](http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php)

Jan 19, 1900Z - Jan 21, 0400Z 50+  
**ARRL January VHF Contest (Ph CW)**

[www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)

## Local VE Sessions

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

Walk-ins permitted unless otherwise noted.

**SEMARA – 10:30 AM** Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>

Larry Houbre-AA1FS

<[exams \[at\] semara \[dot\] org](mailto:exams@semara.org)>

508-991-6055



**Falmouth, MA – 9:00 AM** contact

W. Ben Fleck-K2LYE

<[BenFleck \[at\] verizon \[dot\] net](mailto:BenFleck@verizon.net)>

508-540-2583

**Providence, RI – 7:00 PM** contact

Louis Mester-W1CH

<[W1CH \[at\] arrl \[dot\] net](mailto:W1CH@arrl.org)>

401-263-6045

## Coming FLEAS & FESTS

[www.arrl.org/hamfests/search](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search)

2 Feb **Windsor CT**  
John 860-673-0518

2 Feb **Augusta ME**  
AARA Bill K1NIT 207-512-0312

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

16 Mar **Dayville CT**  
ECARA 8A Paul KE1LI 860-928-5147

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