



# ZERO BEAT

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



OUR 73rd YEAR

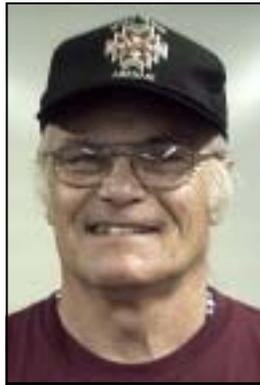
Volume 41, Issue 10

SEMARA W1AEC

October 2005

## New England Native American Culture Past and Present

**G**eorge Estes made his informative presentation to a small number (about 10) of club members. George told us he originally became very excited to learn about a people who could live in harmony with nature. When the Pilgrims arrived, they thought the land was pristine; but it had been inhabited for 6,000-10,000 years, since the ice cap left New England!



GEORGE ESTES

George pointed out that less than 1% of all native americans wore headdresses with lots of feathers. They would have had a difficult time passing through our heavy New England forests. Similarly, teepees were used where there was little wood; New England indians had lots of wood and lived in houses. For indians, dancing is a way to connect with the creator.

George was married to a Canadian indian in a native ceremony and in a church. He even has a native american name. In the indian culture, when you are honored, you give everyone else gifts!

Did you know it is illegal to possess eagle feathers unless you carry a card certifying that you are an indian. In headdresses, a feather on top is the most important as it sends the werer's prayers to heaven—the eagle carries

prayers to the creator.

The snapping turtle shell is an indian calendar. The shell has 13 “moons” and 28 “scallops” around the edge to count days. This comes out to 364 days for the indian year.

The drum is the heart beat of the nations. It is not used for signaling but for singing and dancing. Four drummers (photo) beat out the rhythm while George sang the “vocables” of the song.

### CHEYENNE WAR SONG:

- 1) HAY OH HAY OH HAY OH HAY OH HINDE
- 2) HAY OH HAY OH HAY OH HAY OH HINDE  
HAY OH HINDE HI HI HAY YOH WANNA HINDE OH
- 3x) HAY OH HINDE HAY OH HINDE HI HI HAY YOH  
WANNA HINDE OH

Thanks George! We had a delightful time.



ENTHUSIASTIC DRUMMERS  
CARL, K1KID; GEORGE ESTES (VOCALIST);  
HENRY, W1GYL; AND STAN, KB1KSF (L-R)

## ZERO BEAT

Published monthly by the  
**Southeastern Massachusetts  
 Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**  
 54 Donald Street,  
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### EDITOR

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### ADVERTISING

Club members have one free non-commercial ad per month.

THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF THE PRECEDING MONTH  
 IS THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING  
 MATERIAL FOR PUBLICATION.

### 2005 SEMARA OFFICERS

#### President

Donald Manley, N1PMB

#### Vice President

Charles Moszczanski, KB1FRL

#### Secretary

Ronald Silvia, WB1HGA

#### Treasurer

Scott Szala, W1EV

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Ray Arruda, KB1EVX

Marty Jordon, KA1YFV

Rob Macedo, KD1CY

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Norman Riley, W1ATI (2005)-Ch.

Andrew Reuter, WA1FNM (2006)

William Miller, Jr., K1IBR (2007)

Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS (2008)

Bill Vincent, W1POW (2009)

Website: <http://www.semara.org>

ZeroBeat:

<http://zerobeat.semara.org>

E-mail: [clubinfo@semara.org](mailto:clubinfo@semara.org)

FISTS CW no. 10555

(Adventure Radio Society)

Bumblebee no. 71

Grid Coordinates:

**FN41mo**

GPS Coordinates:

**Lat. N 41° 36.795'**

**Long. W 070° 56.590'**



## It seems to me ...

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

**E**lection fever will soon be spreading around our clubhouse. As far as officers go, the president and vice president spots will be open. **Marty, KA1YFV**, has put his name in for one of the three Board of Directors spots and **Don, N1PMB**, has put his name in to fill the vacated Trustee spot.

**M**ark Twain was supposed to have once said, "The reports of my death are premature." I wonder if the same holds for those who say the bands are dead? According to **Bill, K1IBR**, on 7 September, earth-orbiting satellites detected a major X-class solar flare coming from the sun's eastern limb, probably from returning sunspot 798 which sparked strong geomagnetic storms in August. Although this flare was not earth-directed, flares later in the week could be as the active region turns more and more towards earth. September, like August, could turn into a good month for auroras. *Did anyone experience extraordinary DX in September?*

**S**tan, KB1KSF, reported on some of the topics raised at the Sunday morning Ragchew. There seems to be some interest in: upgrading; election nominations; repairing equipment; distinguishing male from female seagulls; health issues such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and cholesterol. *See what you've been missing?*

**B**e sure to mark your calendars for this month's Tech Talk entitled "Not Your Father's Antenna" to hear about small antennas that are as efficient as full size ones. You'll get enough details to build your own — with the permission of the inventor.

## POINT TO PONDER

"Three daily reminders:

Have the courage to say no.

Have the courage to face the truth.

Have the courage to do the right thing because it is right."

~Mark Twain

## HAMMIN' AROUND

**Question\* G3B14** A shot-distance hop on 10 meters might indicate what conditions on 6 meters?

- The MUF exceeds 50 MHz
- Absolutely no chance of a skywave 6-meter band opening
- 6-meter ground waves will diminish
- 10-meter propagation has no bearing on possible 6-meter propagation

\* 2004 General (Element 3) question pool



# MEETING MINUTES

**T**he September 1, 2005 Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the President, **Don Manley, N1PMB**, with the salute to the flag and a roll call. A quorum of 28 members was present.

**Secretary's Report (Ron Silvia, WB1HGA)**—The meeting minutes of the previous business, as it appeared in the current issue of Zero Beat, was accepted.

**Treasurer's report (Scott Szala, W1EV)**—Absent.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Buildings and Grounds (Andy Reuter, WA1FNM)**—

Nothing to report other than the lights found left on.

**Scholarship (Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS)**—Absent.

**Technical (Rick Cabral, W1RJ & Tony Duarte, N1XRS)**—Absent.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Scholarship/Internet (Larry Houbre, Jr., AA1FS)**—

Nothing to report.

**Activities (Scott Szala, W1EV)**—Absent.

**ARES (Rob Macedo, KD1CY & Tony Duarte, N1XRS)**—Rob reports a successful workshop on the 20<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse. Talked about the recent hurricane disaster.

**Contests (Ron Silvia, WB1HGA)**—Announced standings of FISTS contests; W1AEC made the top ten club listing. Covered Bridge event cancelled because a new bridge is being built. PSK31 event on Sept. 11 and VHF QSO party Sept. 10 thru 12.

**COMMUNICATIONS (Charles Moszczenski, KB1FRL)**—Nothing to report.

**RATIFICATIONS\***—Three applications for life membership were received.

*Motion\**—To admit to life membership:

**David Goldstein, KC1OG;**  
**Paul Carl Nardella, KB1JQT;**  
**James Podsiadlo, AE1C.**

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS (Donald Manley, N1PMB)**—Looking for help on serving hot dogs.; appeals to all considering running for office; and installation of new furnace will begin soon.

**OLD BUSINESS**—None.

## NEW BUSINESS—

*Motion\**—To remove password restriction from wireless router.

*Motion\**—To end printing **ZERO BEAT** in December 2005; but continue with on-line **ZERO BEAT**.

## FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB—

**Carl, K1KID** announced the next Tech Talk event.

**Ed, WA1ZCB**, reminds everyone about the 76 flea market and auction.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE—Eric Pierce, N1WCO**, was the only volunteer to serve on the committee.

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:30 p.m.

*Submitted by Ron Silvia, WB1HGA, Secretary*

\* All motions accepted and passed by the members present.

No auction this month.



## LOCAL NET ACTIVITY

*Reported by Ray Arruda, KB1EVX*

*Please support these local nets by checking in!*

**2-m Roundtable Net** held nightly at 7 p.m. is averaging 3 to 6 check ins. All are welcome, especially new check ins.

**2-m YL Net** held Tuesday at 8 p.m. continues to do well with an average of 3 to 4 check ins. The RI YL Net is on the 146.760 North Sitate, RI repeater is more of a roundtable held every Sunday at 7 p.m.

**6-m Net** held Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. is averaging 5 to 8 check ins.

**3872 kHz SEMARA Morning Net** held weekdays from 7:30 - 8 a.m. is doing well with approximately 5 to 7 check ins with occasional new check ins from time to time. All are welcome.



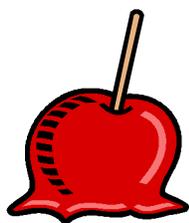
## CLUB NOTES

Enjoy the autumn colors! Maybe you can be a kid again and look at the leaves on the ground as a chance to make huge jumping piles—and not as a raking job.



October offers a lot of contrasts in the weather. Traditionally, we expect to enjoy Indian Summer, a warm spell after the first hard frost.

And don't forget the apple harvest and all the apple cider and pies and ...!



Three applicants were voted a life member of the club at the September 1, 2005 business meeting:

**David Goldstein, KC1OG (A);**  
**Paul Nardella, KB1JQT (T);**  
**James Podsiadlo, AE1C (E).**

*Welcome to the Club!!!*



## AUDIO CDS

Thanks to member **Bob Zeida, N1BLF**, the club has audio CD's of the following magazines for use by visually impaired members:

*QST* - August and September 2005 issues

*WorldRadio* - August & September 2005 issues

*QCWA JOURNAL* - Summer 2005 issue (QCWA - Quarter Century Wireless Association.)

The CD's are atop the file cabinet next to the refrigerator.

Bob is an unsung hero of the club, one of several members that "work behind the scenes" to make SEMARA the great club it is.

*Thanks, Bob*

## COUNT DOWN

The membership agreed to cease the printing and mailing of *Zero Beat* with the December 2005 issue. Starting in January 2006, *Zero Beat* will be published online only. As is the case now, there will be both PDF and HTML color versions.

## FOR SALE

**Kenwood TS-570D[G] – A1 condition**  
**\$600. – Bill W1POW**

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The SEMARA Technical Committee (**Rick Cabral, W1RJG**, **Tony Duarte, Jr., N1XRS** and **Rob Macedo, KD1CY**) would like to be more available to you. Whenever there is a SEMARA technical problem or question (for example, regarding the Internet connection, club computers, club radios, the club repeater, and the like), please send an email to us and you will get a prompt response from one of us:

[technical@semara.org](mailto:technical@semara.org)

(508) 991-2424

### Status of the new 2-m radio in clubhouse wall?

**Bill-K1IBR** built the current radio that is on the clubhouse wall. There are wires for PTT, COS and 12V in the wall that I am unsure of. I have asked for more information to enable me to complete this task. Tony & I hope to be done within 2 months.

### Status of the Log-Yagi repair

**Scott-W1EV** stated he would be able to get a bucket truck, and **Carl-K1KID's** son will help repair the antenna.

### Status of other antennas around the clubhouse: beams/rotators, verticals, & dipoles/trap antennas

Everything other than the Yagi appears to be in working condition.

### Status of announcements on the repeater for business meetings & tech talks

Announcements of club meetings and tech talks

*(Continued on page 6)*

# Amateur Radio News

## TECHNICIAN QUESTION POOL

*The ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 36*

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has announced that the Question Pool Committee (QPC) has adjusted its schedule for revising Amateur Radio examination question pools.

"The QPC feels it is imperative to produce a new Technician class pool now to better position the Amateur Radio Service for growth in the years ahead," the QPC said in a statement released September 9. "The new schedule impacts previously announced release dates for all three question pools."

- The new **Technician** class (Element 2) pool now tops the schedule and is due for release January 1, 2006, effective July 1, 2006.
- **General** class (Element 3) pool updates will be released December 1, 2006, and become effective July 1, 2007.
- The **Extra** class (Element 4) pool will be released on December 1, 2007, and will become effective July 1, 2008.

Barring any major rules changes, subsequent updates to all pools will follow the traditional four-year cycle, the QPC said.

Interested persons are encouraged to submit questions to the NCVEC QPC via the NCVEC Web site <<http://www.ncvec.org>>.

## SUITSAT ARRIVES IN SPACE

*The ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 37*

An unpiloted Russian Progress cargo ship carried two new Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) systems among its 2.5-ton cargo of fuel, food and supplies. Onboard were the SuitSat Amateur Radio hardware and the Slow Scan Television (SSTV) hardware and software.

The SuitSat Amateur Radio gear and a school artwork project are to be installed inside an outdated Russian Orlan spacesuit. SuitSat then will be

deployed from the ISS during a spacewalk.

During its limited lifetime, SuitSat will beam down special messages and an SSTV image as it floats in space. SuitSat's radio system will allow hams and students to track the suit and decode special international messages, spacesuit telemetry and a pre-programmed SSTV image through its specially-built digital voice messaging system and Amateur Radio transmitter. SuitSat will have transmit-only capability and will run on the spacesuit's battery power.

The new SSTV system will be installed inside the Service Module as an integral part of the ARISS ham radio station, NA1SS/RS0ISS. It will transmit and receive JPEG still images from the ISS. When fully operational, the SSTV system will be able to send up to 480 images per day from the ISS as well as receive images from earthbound radio amateurs.

ARISS <<http://www.rac.ca/ariss>> is an international educational outreach with US participation from ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

## KUSS SCHOOL'S NA1SS QSO

*de Roland, K1JOY*

On September 16, Kuss Middle School students in Fall River had an absolutely perfect radio contact with NA1SS. The QSO began at 2:24 p.m. and the entire pass was just under 10 minutes.

We had 12 students lined up with 2 questions each to ask, so almost every kid got 2 chances at the microphone. The kids were able to ask 22 questions, as we lost signal right at the end of the 22<sup>nd</sup> answer by astronaut John Phillips.

We were set up in the Kuss library with about 50 people present. Needless to say, there were plenty of smiling faces at the end of the event.

Thanks to all who helped to make this event possible: W2DAN, who was there the last 2 years; N1RHS & WA1ESO who set up Thursday night; KB1CNA and WB1HGA who assisted on Friday; and N1DU who donated embroidered commemorative patches designed by the school that he produced on short notice.

# More SEMARA Stuff

## NEW FURNACE

**O**n Thursday, September 8, 2005, a new furnace was installed at the clubhouse in the cement block boiler room. The new unit, although much smaller in size than the original, provides just as much heat output. It took from 8 am to 4 pm to complete the installation. A good portion of the time was spent fabricating sheet metal adapters to connect the new furnace to the existing ductwork. Additionally, the new furnace was set atop cement pads to prevent rusting of the bottom as occurred on the old unit.

The next day, a burner technician adjusted the furnace for proper combustion. The manufacturer's stated efficiency is 81 percent. Following the tune up, the measured efficiency was 81.5 percent.

The old furnace was over 50 years old. One can only hope the new unit lasts as long.

## LETTER FROM TENN

*de Bob Kish, KAIYON*

**T**he past 3 years I've been living in TN, the same area where they filmed the movie *Deliverance*. So when I hear banjo music I jump.

*Zero Beat* was my one link to home. I spent many a day chasing tornados with SkyWarn in middle TN. The largest was the F4 that leveled the city of Jackson, TN in Spring 2003 just after my wedding in Las Vegas.

We have adopted a second child from China. So now we have a 4 yr old, Rebecca Rose, and a 3 yr old next week, Megan Jean.

I am happy to see our club is now a HandiHam club. So I would like some help with a few things? I have a huge shed that I was wintering [sic] to turn into a radio shack/work shop.

PS I miss all of you.



## BLIND RADIO DIRECTION-FINDING EVENT PLANNED

From the *HandiHam World Weekly E-Letter* for September 7, 2005

**W**ould you or someone you know be interested in a blind-friendly get-together at Dayton during Hamvention® week? With support from the ARRL, the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Society in Cincinnati is investigating the possibility of holding the first ever Blind Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) USA Championship next year.

The tentative timeline is the Thursday or Friday before the Dayton Hamvention. Location will be in the vicinity of Hara Arena. The hunt would be on 80-meters with a limited amount of equipment for loan. A practice session will also be scheduled for all new to the sport of ARDF and 80-meters.

Before moving forward with details, we need to take a poll of potential competitors to verify that there is sufficient interest in such an endeavor. *Should you like to participate* or just have some questions, *send an email to [wb4suv@arrrl.net](mailto:wb4suv@arrrl.net) or [wa6ezv@arrrl.net](mailto:wa6ezv@arrrl.net)*. If we receive a sufficient response, details on time, date, location, and venue will be posted on:

<http://www.ardfusa.com>.

Currently, a list of tentative rules can also be found on this site.

For more information on ARDF visit:

<http://members.aol.com/homingin/intlfox.html>.

*Technical Committee (Continued from page 4)*

will return to the repeater beginning with the announcement of the October business meeting.

*Status of 147.000 Repeater*

We are well aware that the club repeater needs some work. I (Rick) might not make the October business meeting because of HossTraders in NH, but at the November business meeting, we will announce the known issues and the steps we will take to correct them (some issues might need approval). If you are interested in discussing the repeater, please attend the November business meeting.

## OCTOBER VE SESSIONS

- 1 SEMARA Clubhouse 10:30 a.m.**  
Larry Houbre, AA1FS  
508-991-6055
- 8 Falmouth, MA 9:00 a.m.**  
Joanne Reid, N1LNE  
508-548-1121
- 13 Providence, RI 7:00 p.m.**  
Louis Mester, W1CH  
401-231-6045
- 17 Fall River, MA 7:00 p.m.**  
Skip Denault, KB1CNB  
774-644-3469
- 20 Norwood, MA 7:30 p.m.**  
Richard Cantin, AA1TI  
508-339-1089
- 29 Slatersville, RI 9:00 a.m.**  
Robert Jones, WB1P  
401-333-4787

## OCTOBER SEMARA EVENTS

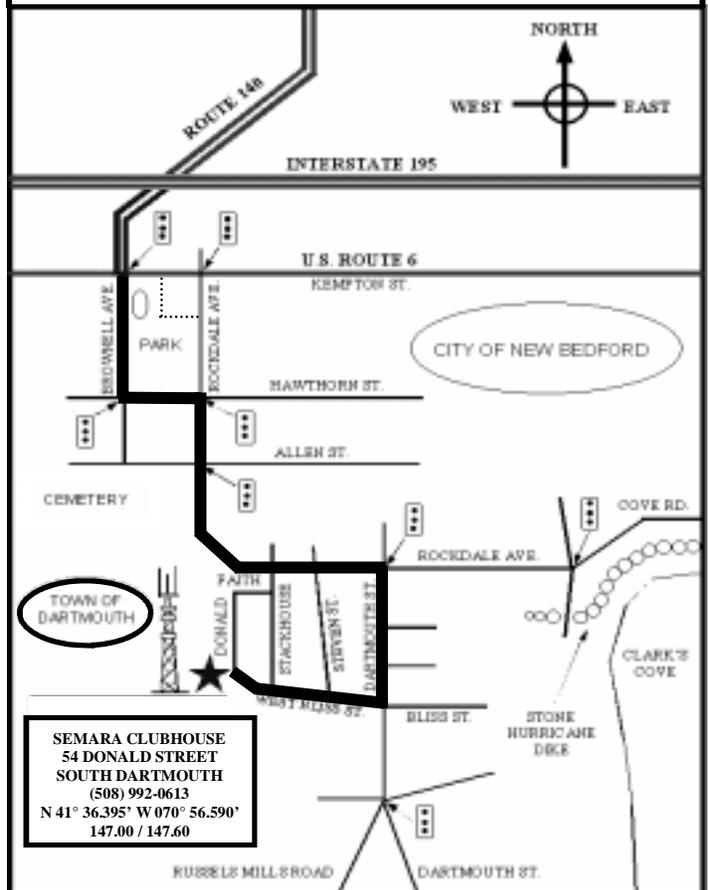
- 1—VE Session.** 10:30 a.m.
- 6—Business Meeting** 7 p.m.
- 13—Ragchew,** 6:30 p.m.
- 20—Tech Talk – 7 p.m.**  
“Not Your Father’s Antenna”  
presented by **Carl, K1KID**
- 27—Ragchew,** 6:30 p.m.

Ragchew at the clubhouse every Sunday 7 - 11 a.m.

## FALL FLEAMARKETS

- 7-8 Oct Hopkinton, NH**  
HossTraders — Joe 207-469-3492
- 8 Oct Nashua, NH**  
NE Antique RC — Marty 603-938-5051
- 9 Oct Wallingford, CT**  
Nutmeg Hamfest — John 203-440-4468
- 16 Oct Cambridge, MA**  
FLEA at MIT — Nick 617-253-3776
- 4 Nov Feeding Hills, MA**  
HCRA Auction — Jim 413-245-3228
- 5 Nov Londonderry, NH**  
Interstate Rep Soc — Paul 603-883-3308
- 12 Nov East Falmouth, MA**  
Falmouth ARA — Ralph 508-548-6405

## Directions to SEMARA



A. As the maximum usable frequency (MUF) for a given path increases, the single-hop distance at lower frequencies will decrease. Suppose you are operating on the 10-meter band and are contacting stations that are 800 to 1000 miles away. After making a few more contacts you start to notice that you are contacting stations only about 500 miles away, and then you notice that you are contacting stations even closer, perhaps only out to a few hundred miles. This can be an excellent indication that the MUF for the longer-path stations has moved up to a higher frequency, perhaps even above 50 MHz. It is a good time to check for a band opening on 6-meters!

# SEMARA

## HandiHam Affiliate

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

### LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY

Frequency	CTCSS	Call	Location
<b>144</b>			
145.150 -	123.0	WAIDGW	Fall River
145.490 -	67.0 <sup>1</sup>	KD1CY	Fairhaven
146.655 -	88.5	WAIGPO	Falmouth
146.685 -		N1ZIZ	Plymouth
146.700 -		K1CR	Cranston, RI
146.730 -	67.0	W1SGL	Sandwich
146.760 -		W1HQV	Scituate, RI
146.835 -	192.8	W1PEV	Johnston, RI
146.955 -	88.5	K1PBO	Dennis
147.000 + SEMARA	67.0	W1AEC	Dartmouth
147.135 +	67.0	KA1GG	Taunton
147.180 +	67.0	W1MV	Bridgewater
147.315 +	67.0 <sup>2</sup>	KB1HJG	Plymouth
147.345 +	88.5	KB1QL	Vineyard
Node #s: <sup>1</sup> IRLP-4617 & EchoLink-4611; <sup>2</sup> IRLP-4722 & EchoLink-4721			
<b>440</b>			
441.400 +	100.0	WG1U	Plymouth
442.200 +	88.5	N1NRL	Fall River
442.950 +	82.5 <sup>5</sup>	K1RK	Barnstable
443.450 +	88.5	K1MYL	Westport
443.500 +	141.3 <sup>5</sup>	K1PBO	Dennis
443.800 +	88.5 <sup>3</sup>	W1RJC	Dartmouth
444.200 +	118.8	N1YHS	Bourne
444.250 +	141.3 <sup>5</sup>	WAIGPO	Falmouth
444.350 +	88.5	W1ACT	Fall River
444.550 +	88.5	W1MV	Bridgewater
447.025 -	77.0 <sup>4</sup>	N1JBC	Johnston, RI
447.075 -	88.5	N1DZD	Kingston
Node #s: <sup>3</sup> IRLP-4259 & EchoLink-4259; <sup>4</sup> IRLP-5920 & EchoLink-55920			
<sup>5</sup> Cape Cod Network			

### SEMARA ACTIVITY DIRECTORY

#### --- RAGCHEW ---

Sat - 8 p.m. 28.700 MHz USB  
 Sun - 8 a.m. 28.700 MHz USB  
 Tue - 8 p.m. 147.000+ YL Net  
 Wed - 8:30 p.m. 50.200 MHz USB  
 Daily - 7 p.m. 147.000+  
 Mon-Fri - 7:30 a.m. 3.872 MHz LSB

#### --- KD1CY WEATHER NET ---

Mon-Fri - 8:00 p.m. 145.490-

#### --- W1RJC Sunday Activities 443.800+ ---

7 p.m. - New England Net  
 9 p.m. - ARRL News followed by Amateur Audio News

### NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION

**OCTOBER 1, 2005**  
**10:30 A.M. @ CLUBHOUSE**  
**LARRY HOUBRE, JR., AA1FS**  
**508-991-6055**