



ZERO BEAT

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

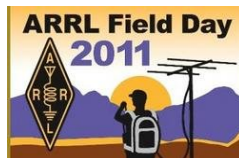


Since 1932

Volume 47 Issue 7 SEMARA-W1AEC July 2011

2011 SEMARA Field Day

Field Day was June 25-26, 2011. This year's participation was organized by **Ben-N1WBV**. He managed to gather a small but dedicated crew consisting of **Tony-KB1UAM**, **Larry-KB1TNF**, and **John-WA1ESO**.



The four ops: Tony-KB1UAM, Ben-N1WBV, Larry-KB1TNF and John-WA1ESO

It took them less than two hours to erect the antennas, one G5RW horizontal and the other as an invert



Center mast for the G5RV inverted vee

vee. SEMARA operated as Class 2A (two transmitters, club with more than three operators, operating independent of commercial power mains). The power came from a solar array, stored in two batteries, all provided by **Larry-KB1TNF** (more photos on p.7).



Larry-KB1TNF operating & his battery pack and solar cells

They did operate until 2 PM. Field Day this year was "just for fun;" hence, the number of contacts was not an issue - but **Phil-K9HI**, EMA SM did stop by as he has done in past years. Next year in the field!



Ben-N1WBV treats the crew to *haut cuisine*

ZERO BEAT

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2011 SEMARA OFFICERS

President

Marcel Dumont—W1MLD

Vice President

Bob Kelley—K1KVV

Secretary

Marc Dumont—KB1ODE

Treasurer

Mike McDonald—KB1NB

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Directors:

Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC

Brad Paiva—W1BEP

John Walsh—WA1LSH

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Trustees: (year term is up)

Tim Smith—N1TI (2011) chair

Henry Blanchett—W1GYL (2012)

John Walsh—WA1LSH (2013)

Louis Mester—W1CH (2014)

Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC (2015)

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STANDING COMMITTEES

Building and Grounds

Dave Dean—K1JGV

Marty Jordan—KA1YFV

Scholarship

Sonny Eddleston—K1USW – chair

Chuck Moszczenski—KB1FRL

Alan Dulong—WB1FQP

Joe Krisnowsky—N1IXC

Technical/Repeater/Website

Dave Goldstein—W1DJG: Tech

Rick Cabral—W1RJC: Repeater

Rick Cabral—W1RJC: Website

Ben Jackson—N1WBV: facebook

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SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Activities

VACANT

ARES/SKYWARN/RACES

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 \[at\] semara \[dot\] org](mailto:editor[at]semara[dot]org)>

that we haven't have a fox hunt recently. As I asked last month, "can you even remember when that was? Who found the fox first? Where was the fox hiding? Want to know the answers to these questions—research the *Zero Beat archives* online—thanks to **Tim (N1TI)**." Well, the best I could do is shared on page 6!



Kids Day was Saturday, June 18. This on-air event aims to encourage young people (licensed or not) to have fun with Amateur Radio. Did you do your part? The club station is always available.



The May Technician licensing class for new Technician licensees was cancelled due to lack of demand. What could we do to be more successful? Your ideas are more than welcome!



Did you know, the June VE Session was also cancelled? We actually had to turn away an examinee who hadn't gotten the word about the cancelation.

How about you? How did you learn about it? How could we have handled this better? Suggestions?



CQ CQ CQ volunteers. Are you as tired of me reminding you about SEMARA's lack of volunteers? Yes, we have some, but not in several key areas.



Does that mean that we don't want to have a Tailgate Party on the second Sunday in September? If we want it to be a success, we need to let the world know about it - two-months lead time! Who will step forward to lead?

Did anyone notice the vacant Activities slot under Special Committees? This position has been vacant for over a year. Will you step forward to lead?

POINT TO PONDER

"An idea is salvation by imagination."

~Frank Lloyd Wright

HAMMIN' AROUND

Question* G0B16 When might a lead acid storage battery give off explosive hydrogen gas?

- When stored for long periods of time
- When being discharged
- When being charged
- When not placed on a level surface

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

Answer on page 8.

Club Notes

July is the month when things are going to happen at SEMARA.



We are looking forward to getting the Sommers Log-Yagi antenna re-installed on the 85' tower. The hold-up is finding a way to attach the rotator to the mast so it doesn't fail (as it did last time). Otherwise, it is ready to hoist once we put the beam support wire in place. He hasn't ask yet, but what do you say we all volunteer to help? Remember. Even if you just turn up to cheer the workers on, you're helping! That's SEMARA spirit!



Take a look at our website for the latest postings:

[semara \[dot\] org](http://semara.org).

Tech Talks are back! **Brad, WIBEP** is now in charge. Keep the third Thursday of the month open for the 7:00 PM event.



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 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.

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

LOCAL REPEATER DIRECTORY
 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>)

THE US. ORIGINAL 13 COLONIES GROUP
 PRESENTS THE 3RD ANNUAL

Original 13 Colonies
Special Event
 JULY 1ST - JULY 5TH, 2011

Want to take part in this special event? When will you be available? We'll fit your schedule. Come on down. We'll be using the callsign **K2H**.

Contact **Bob-K1KVV**
[k1kvv \[at\] arrl \[dot\] net](mailto:k1kvv@arrl.net)

NEXT SEMARA VE SESSION
 August 6, 2011
 Clubhouse @ 10:30 AM
 Contact: Larry Houbre-AA1FS
[exams \[at\] semara \[dot\] org](mailto:exams@semara.org)
 508-991-6055



Sudoku

Here is an easy Sudoku puzzle to solve while waiting for the net to start. (Solution on p. 8.)

		2						5
			2			7	8	3
5	3			6				
4				8			5	
	8	5	9		2	4	7	
	1			7				8
				3			2	1
7	6	1			4			
8						5		

Official Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2011



The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the President, **Marcel (W1MLD)** with the salute to the flag. The roll was called with 21 members and 0 guests present.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, **Mike (KB1NB)** reports a balance of \$28,070.00 on hand as of 5/31/2011. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to refer the Treasurer's Report to audit.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Buildings and Grounds

Dave (K1JGV) reported that the new roof was completed this past month without any further repairs necessary. He also mentioned that help would be needed over the summer for grounds maintenance as it is a big job. **Marty (KA1YFV)** has been doing a good job of it but has not had any help.

Technical

Ben (N1WBV) spoke for the Technical Committee. He stated that they are working on the antenna repairs and they should be done by summer. Any trouble logging on to club computers can be mailed to him and he will resolve the issues. The wireless key for internet access is posted for members using their own computers in the building.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Radio Events

Bob (K1KVV) spoke of contests posted in Zero Beat and other ARRL events. Kids Day will be on Saturday June 18, 2011. Field Day will be Saturday June 25, and the 13 Colonies event will be July 1 through 5. Operators are needed.

Ben (N1WBV) mentioned it would be nice to get operators for a VHF contest

Repeater

Ben (N1WBV) stated that the 900 IRLP node seems to have a hardware issue they are looking into. The amplifier on the 2 meter repeater will be looked at soon as it is currently running at lower power.

Website

Ben (N1WBV) stated that the website is running well with no problems.

COMMUNICATIONS

Marcel (W1MLD) read a letter of thanks from recent scholarship recipient, **Amanda Mendes**.

PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

Marcel (W1MLD) made comments as follows:

Restroom: In a conversation with several authorities, including the new Building Inspector, it was determined that the proper course of action would be to continue obtaining the variance, as the AAB still has final jurisdiction over the local authorities.

Special BOD Meeting: The Board has summoned **Mr. Robert Simcik, WX1DOG** to a hearing regarding complaints from other members. This meeting will take place Saturday, June 11, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. Recommendations as a result of this meeting will be brought to the full membership at the next business meeting.

Roof repairs: Repairs to the roof have been completed. There was no need to replace plywood roofing. Seals around the vent stack were replaced.

ARRL Equipment Insurance: It would be a good idea to look into ARRL Equipment Insurance for the club. The cost is very reasonable for the protection afforded by such a policy.

OLD BUSINESS

There was brief discussion regarding details of the roof repairs.

NEW BUSINESS

Dave (K1JGV) spoke of the need for more help with upkeep of grounds. After discussion it was determined a key for the shed would be left locked in the building and Dave will also look into pricing from landscapers.

Ben (N1WBV) spoke about the wireless router/access point. The current unit does not support current encryption standards and can easily be breached. Also, with the expanding network needs the current switch is insufficient and an upgrade should be purchased. After some discussion a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to allocate an amount not to exceed \$250.00 for needed computer network equipment.

Brad (W1BEP) mentioned that there will be a tech talk regarding cameras and security on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Marcel (W1MLD) mentioned that he was in con-

(Continued on page 5)

SEMARA News

Official Newsletter of the SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

(Minutes continued from page 4)

tact with Nstar regarding the light to be installed on the utility pole. Progress is being made regarding details and installation.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB

Ben (N1WBV) has two people (not SEMARA members) to operate Field Day on June 25th and 26th but would like more operators. Anyone wishing to assist would be greatly appreciated.

Bob (K1KVV) mentioned the need for an Activities Director to organize some club events. A tailgate party is to be scheduled for September and someone to chair that event would be appreciated as it is getting close to advertising deadlines.

ADJOURN

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marc M. Dumont (KB1ODE), Secretary

50/50 Raffle: The raffle was won by **Donald Mara (WA1PLT)**. The split was \$15.50.

Board of Directors Special Meeting June 11, 2011

On June 11, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. the Board of Directors scheduled a special meeting to address complaints received from members regarding **Robert Simcik (WX1DOG)**. Mr Simcik was notified of the meeting via US Mail, return receipt. Signed delivery confirmation was returned via US Mail with Mr. Simcik's signature. In the letter, Mr. Simcik was advised of the meeting and given the opportunity to reschedule, if necessary. No further correspondence of any form was received from Mr. Simcik

At 10:22 a.m. with Mr. Simcik not having arrived or notified the Board of Directors to reschedule, the meeting then began without Mr. Simcik, per SEMARA bylaws. All members of the Board of Directors and 2 complainants were present. Four members were also present.

The President, **Marcel (W1MLD)** began by presenting a packet of documents received from the attorney regarding several past complaints to various boards, all mentioning Mr. Robert Simcik as the complainant. It should be noted that, at no time was the Board of Directors notified of any complaints by

Mr. Simcik prior to them being filed. One particular complaint from June, 2007 was filed with the Dartmouth Board of Health alleging unclean conditions and rodent infestations. Upon inspection, absolutely no evidence substantiating the claim whatsoever was found.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend expulsion from SEMARA membership for Mr. Simcik. Some discussion followed. Both letters of complaint were read into the record with the complainants, **Mr. David Dean (K1JGV)** and **Mr. Armand Augustine (W1BUG)** present. SEMARA also has formal documents as evidence of Mr. Simcik's culpability regarding these complaints. It was noted that SEMARA does have avenues available to address any issues or complaints and all were circumvented by Mr. Simcik.

After discussion, the motion was amended to recommend to the membership at the next business meeting, the following:

1. Mr. Robert Simcik should face expulsion from membership in SEMARA.
2. Mr. Simcik should be ordered not to use SEMARA repeaters.
3. Mr. Simcik should be served with a "No Trespass" notice for SEMARA building and grounds.

After the motion being made and seconded, it was then unanimously approved by the Board of Directors.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to adjourn at 10:43 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

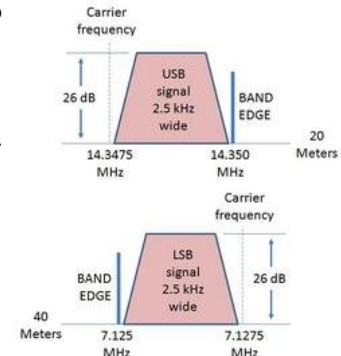
Marc M. Dumont (KB1ODE), Secretary

Band Edges

Do you know how to make sure your signal is in-band?

Be sure that the rig's displayed frequency of your carrier is far enough from the edge of the band to stay legal!

Hifi signals beware!



More Semara News



ZERO BEAT

Volume 40, Issue 8, August 2004

Don't you want to build a good fox hunt setup to give **Bill Miller, K1IBR**, some competition? The Fox Hunt on July 15 attracted 11 hunters to find the fox. The fox team took off a little before 7 p.m.

They setup on 146.46 simplex. They were ready at about 7:03 p.m. and the hunt started. Not unexpectedly, the first team to find the fox was Bill Miller's using his *Doppler Direction Finder*. What was unexpected was it took his team only 11 minutes to do it!

Following the hunt every one enjoyed an ice cream cone at the Dairy Maid on Cove Rd, next to the hurricane dike, the foxes' den.

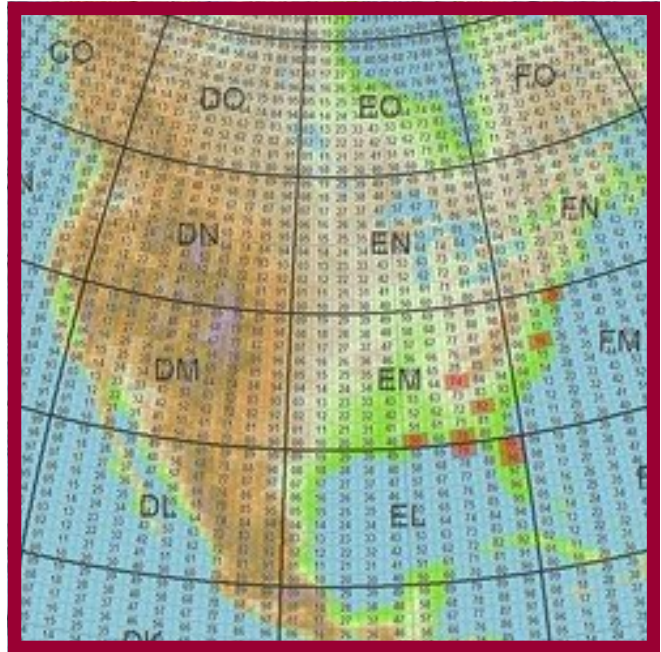
Here are two color photos for your enjoyment.



Winners of the 2004 fox hunt: **Ray-KB1EVX**, **Bill-K1IBR**, and **Don-N1PMB**



Foxes of 2004 at the Dairy Maid: **Jason (Ed's grandson)**, **Ed-WA1ZCB**, and **Carl-K1KID**



Maidenhead Grid Square
Primary Two-Letter Zones

Amateur Radio Week

Just in time for Field Day – Massachusetts Governor Deval L. Patrick has declared June 25 -26, 2011 to be "Amateur Radio Week" in Massachusetts.

The Proclamation was signed at the Executive Chamber in Boston on June 15. The official document was awarded on June 21 to ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Manager **Phil Temples, K9HI** who met with **Bianca Hoffman** in the Governor's Office on Beacon Hill.

Several individuals worked to secure this year's proclamation, according to Temples. "I want to acknowledge the work of our State Government Liaison, **K3HI**, along with effort by several club presidents – and in particular, one of our Local Government Liaisons, **Hank McCarl, W4RIG** of Gloucester," remarked Temples. The Senate Minority Leader is, coincidentally, a licensed amateur, and a member of the Cape Ann Amateur Radio Association. We hope also to secure a Senate Resolution honoring Amateur Radio."



More Semara News

Official Newsletter of the SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

Computers and Cameras and Surveillance Tech Talk



Tom Derosier of CPU Tommy's of Lakeville

The **Tech Talk** was given on Thursday evening, June 16th at the clubhouse by Tom Derosier. He gave a hands-on demo of the parts and pieces of computers and security cameras. (See the photo below.)

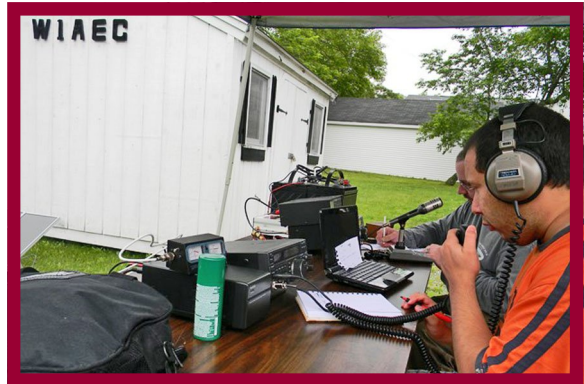
For surveillance, he pointed out that cameras can operate as an endless loop. Each camera interface can handle four units. Using a dedicated computer, a week of images for all four can be recorded and stored on a 1 TByte hard drive. This sounds like a system we could use for the clubhouse grounds.

Two Outdoor Cameras with LEDs for Night Vision and an Indoor Dome Camera

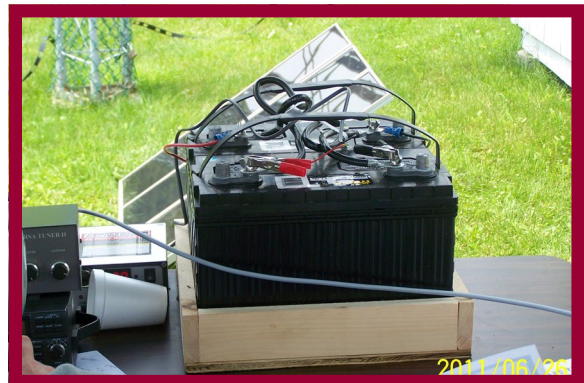


Some more Field Day photos

Thanks to **Sonny-K1USW** and **Marcel-W1MJD** for sharing their pictures as well as thanks to **Ben-N1WBV** and crew [**Tony-KB1UAM**, **Larry-KB1TNF**, and **John-WA1ESO**] for a fine Field Day!



Tony-KB1UAM operating at 2011 FD



Dual battery pack with solar cells



Larry-KB1TNF (SSB), John-WA1ESO (CW)

Some Contests

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

Phone_CW_Digital

Jul 4, 0000Z - Jul 10, 2400Z 28
Ten-Ten Spirit of 76 QSO Party

www.ten-ten.org

Jul 16, 1800Z - Jul 17, 2100Z 50,144
CQ WW VHF Contest

www.cqww-vhf.com

Phone_CW

Jul 1, 0000Z - Jul 1, 2359Z 1.8-28 50-144
Canada Day Contest

www.rac.ca/service/contesting

Jul 2, 0000Z - Jul 3, 2400Z 1.8-28
Venezuelan Independence Day Contest

www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm

Jul 9, 1200Z - Jul 10, 1200Z 1.8-28
IARU HF World Championships

www.arrl.org/contests

Jul 17, 0700Z - Jul 17, 1459Z 7-28
Russian Radio Team Championship

www.srr.ru/CONTEST/

Jul 30, 1200Z - See website 3.5-28 50-144
MARAC US Counties QSO Party

www.marac.org

Jul 30, 1200Z - Jul 31, 1200Z 3.5-28
IOTA Contest

www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2011/riota.shtml

Digital

Jul 2, 8 PM - Jul 3, 2 AM 7
070 Club Firecracker PSK31 Sprint

www.podxs070.com

Jul 2, 1100Z - Jul 3, 1059Z 3.5-28
DL DX RTTY Contest

www.drcg.de

Jul 16, 1800Z - Jul 17, 0600Z 3.5-28
North American QSO Party RTTY

www.ncjweb.com

VE Sessions

Walk-ins permitted unless otherwise noted.

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

SEMARA – 10:30 AM August 6th

Larry Houbre-AA1FS

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

508-991-6055



Fall River, MA – 7:00 PM July 18th

Skip Denault-KB1CNB

<[skip \[at\] newtestamentschool \[dot\] org](mailto:skip[at]newtestamentschool[dot]org)>

774-644-3469

Falmouth, MA – 9:00 AM July 9th

W. Ben Fleck-K2LYE

<[BenFleck \[at\] cape \[dot\] com](mailto:BenFleck[at]cape[dot]com)>

508-540-2583

Providence, RI – 7:00 PM July 14th

Louis Mester-W1CH

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

Coming FLEAS & FESTS

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

17 July Cambridge MA FLEA @ MIT
 Nick 617-253-3776

23 July N Haven CT Yankee Peddler
 John N1GNV 203-440-4468

13 Aug Milo ME PARC
 George WA1JMM 207-441-6112

20 Aug St Albans VT StARC
 Arn N1ARN 802-309-0666

Answer: Sudoku ¹³

8	2	3	1	9	6	5	4	7
7	6	1	5	2	4	8	3	9
9	5	4	8	3	7	6	2	1
2	1	9	4	7	5	3	6	8
3	8	5	6	1	2	4	7	9
4	9	7	6	8	3	1	5	2
5	3	8	7	9	6	2	1	4
6	4	9	3	5	1	7	8	2
1	7	2	3	4	8	9	6	5

Answer: HAMMIN' AROUND

A. When might a lead acid storage battery give off explosive hydrogen gas? (C) When being charged

CLUB ACTIVITIES

BUSINESS MEETING

7 PM First Thursday of the month

SUNDAY RAGCHEW

7-10 AM SUN

MOST-OF-THE-TIME (call ahead)

LUNCHEON: 11:30 AM FRIDAYS

Meet at the clubhouse at 11:15 AM