



# ZERO BEAT

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



Since 1932

Volume 49 Issue 4

SEMARA-W1AEC

April 2013

## ARES District Meeting

Organized by South Shore ARES District Emergency Coordinator **Edward A. Caron (KA1RSY)**, the South Shore District of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) hosted a meeting on March 16, 2013 at 10 AM with the theme *"From Tactical to Digital."* This gave ARES members a chance to learn and to ask questions about Emergency Communications until about 2 PM.

For the 'Tactical' segment, the speaker was **Steve Schwarm W3EVE**. Steve is the Eastern Massachusetts Section District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) in charge of Field Operations. Steve is also the Coordinator for Amateur Radio Operations at the Boston Marathon, the largest Amateur Radio Public Service event in New England. Steve's presentation discussed the vast operations of the Marathon.

The second speaker was **Rob Macedo KD1CY**, our Eastern Massachusetts ARES Section Emergency Coordinator and SKYWARN Coordinator for the National Weather Service in Taunton. He spoke about the roles of MEMA, ARES and Skywarn

For the 'Digital' segment, we heard from **Frank O'Laughlin WQ1O** Cape Cod ARES DEC and **Dan Howard K1CYO** Cape Cod ARES Asst. DEC. They demonstrated some of the newer digital modes such as Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS).

### Comments

"Hi Bob,

The district wide meeting demonstrated the need for good solid voice communications and net operations along with some of the newer digital modes that are being used for EMCOM. For the tactical side, **Steve W3EVE** gave an excellent presentation on the behind the scene operations of the Marathon and the complexity that goes along with setting up communications for such a large event. Steve also entertained a number of questions and also recruited a few new volunteers from the group.

Next, **Rob Macedo KD1CY** spoke on ARES updates including Hospital updates and he also touched on RACES.

For the afternoon session, **Frank O'Laughlin WQ1O** and **Dan Howard K1CYO** demonstrated some of the newer digital modes including *Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)*. Two low power transmitters were set up and an actual demo was performed at the meeting.

All in all, the meeting went well with about forty amateur radio operators attending this event. They came from as far as Cape Cod, Plymouth and Somerset. In addition the meeting helped recruit a few new members for the club, the Boston Marathon and the ARES group.

*I would especially like to thank our speakers, Steve, Rob, Frank and Dan who also came from a distance to volunteer their services to speak to our group. Without them this meeting would not have been such a success.*

*Hopefully we can run more meetings like this; but I need everyone's input on what you would like to have for subjects. if anyone has a subject you would like to speak on, please contact me. To keep this interesting we need to provide fresh and interesting subjects on EMCOM.*

*Thanks to all who attended and those who helped, especially the SEMARA members who worked hard on cleaning the club house and washed and waxed the floors and set up the chairs and tables for the meeting, a great team effort. "*

**Ed KA1RSY**  
South Shore ARES DEC  
[KA1RSY \[at\] arrl \[dot\] net](mailto:KA1RSY[at]arrl[dot]net)

[Meeting pictures are on page 2.]

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**ZERO BEAT**

Published online monthly

©2013 Southeastern Massachusetts  
Amateur Radio Association, Inc.  
54 Donald Street  
South Dartmouth, MA 02748  
508-997-7070

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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)

Ed Caron—KA1RSY

QSL Manager

John Nery—WA1ESO

Radio Events

Bob Kelley—K1KVV

Tech Talk

Brad Paiva—W1BEP

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

**that** there's a lot of interest in Emergency Communications (EMCOM). The attendance at the ARES District meeting was more than three dozen, not including the speakers. This meeting was filled with information. It would be great to have **Frank WQ1O** and **Dan K1CYO** give us a Tech Talk about the Narrow Band Message System and it's software components. -- *Let's go Digital* --

*[I guess we all will have to learn how to type, fill in forms, and spell!!!]*

**STEVE W3EVE****2013 MARCH ARES DISTRICT MEETING ATTENDEES****Ed KA1RSY****ROB KD1CY****SPEAKERS: STEVE, ROB, ED, AND FRANK WQ1O****DAN K1CYO****POINT TO PONDER**

“Be not afraid of growing slowly. Be afraid only of standing still.”

~Chinese Proverb

# Official Meeting Minutes



**March 7, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM 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 voted to accept the Secretary's Report as posted on the bulletin board and in *Zero Beat*.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, **Mike (KB1NB)** reported total monies paid totaled \$719.00, received totaled \$2,924.00 with a total available on hand of \$59,347.00. He also reported NETCOM's balance owed as of 3/1/2013 is \$18,555.00.

Discussion followed resulting in a decision to request Al attend the next business meeting. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to send a letter to NETCOM stating that SEMARA will no longer accept payments other than a certified or bank check. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to refer the report to audit.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Buildings and Grounds

It was mentioned that the back door was found open this past week and members were cautioned to verify the door was completely closed when they leave. It was also reminded to properly dispose of rubbish outside.

### Scholarship

**Joe (N1IXC)** reported that one application for scholarship has been received thus far and was being reviewed.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### ARES, RACES, SKYWARN

**Ed (KA1RSY)** reported the next ARES District meeting would be held at SEMARA on Saturday, March 16, 2013 at 10:00 AM and spoke of some planned speakers.

### Radio Events

**Bob (K1KVV)** mentioned several events as listed

in *Zero Beat*, including Lighthouse "Spring Lights" March 22-23 from 00:01 hrs.

### Repeater/Website

The President, **Marcel (W1MLD)** read an email report from **Rick (W1RJG)** regarding spam filtering on the email list and updates on the repeater systems including connection to EchoLink and IRLP.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Marcel (W1MLD)** reported that the old Nextel building in the back was now officially owned by NETCOM and negotiations for acquiring the building will take place.

The rotor for the Log Periodic antenna was tested and a problem with the controller was found. Options were discussed. It was decided to look into repair/freight options as well as purchase price of a new system and bring the results to the next business meeting for consideration. It was also mentioned that the rotor for the smaller antenna is in and reinstall is being scheduled.

## NEW BUSINESS

It was decided to look into and schedule a company to professionally clean and wax the floor in the building.

## ADJOURN

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to adjourn at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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



### 50/50 RAFFLE

The 50/50 raffle was won by **Brad (W1BEP)**  
The split was \$14.00/\$14.00.

# Club Notes



## Letter to the Editor

As you know, I have assumed the VE functions for SEMARA.

I have been studying the contents and organization of the materials given me by **Larry Houbre, AA1FS**, to see what I must learn. I must say that the organization of the testing is superb and the records are in tact and fully traceable. Larry has left me a very well cared for program and I will try to continue in the same vain.

**Our next session is April 6, 2013 at 10:30 AM** and I look forward to its success. With the support of SEMARA, our team of VEs will continue to provide the best exam sessions available.

de **Fred N1TF**  
VE Coordinator for SEMARA.



### Gay Susan (Lawson) Ryder

SEMARA member **Peter Ryder (KB1GPL)** lost his wife, **Gay Susan (Lawson) Ryder**. She passed away at age 59 on Saturday, March 16, 2013 at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Her funeral was on Saturday, March 23, 2013 followed by burial in Evergreen Cemetery, Fall River.

*Our sympathy goes to Pete and his family.*

## 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!**

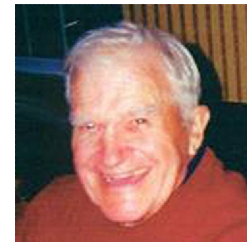
**147.000+** (PL 67.0 Hz) (FM) — Massachusetts RAC-ES/ACS Drill (Region 2, Sector A) is held on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 PM.

**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.

**1875 kHz** (LSB) Net is held Fridays at 7PM. **Dave, K1JGV** is net control with **Dick, K1AHA** as back up.



### William M Miller, Sr.

The father of late SEMARA member **Bill Miller (K1IBR)**, **William M. Miller, Sr.**, 98, of Westport, Massachusetts, died on Sunday, March 24, 2013.

Bill, Sr. was the beloved husband of the late Mona (Atherton) Miller; son of the late William Miller and the late Edith (Gurney) Miller; and **father of the late William Miller, Jr. (K1IBR)**, the late Thomas Miller, and the late Margery Miller. He was predeceased by his sister Sarah Demoranville and his brothers Herbert, George, Walter, and Harold Miller.

He lived with his daughter Margery in New Bedford from 1997 until he moved to his daughter Susan's home in Westport in 2011. Services were private.

*Our sympathy goes to his family*

# SEMARA News

(Continued from page 1)

“Hi Bob,

Sorry for the delay on getting back to you. Here is what I thought of the meeting.



I was surprise and happy to see so many hams at this meeting at SEMARA. Steve Schwarm was the first speaker to talk about the Boston Marathon and I found it very interesting on how many hams are need to run this event and seven or eight repeaters also for this event.

Rob Macedo was our second speaker. He spoke on MEMA, ARES and Skywarn. I was happy to hear that talks between hams and the folks from MEMA are still going on. It would be a good idea if SEMARA could host a Skywarn class this year.

Frank O'laughlin and Dan Howard were the last speakers. They spoke about digital systems and how to pass messages over two meters. This part was very new to me and I found that this would be good in case of a large storm when repeaters are down and you could make contact with EOCs by simplex.

To round this up, I found the day very interesting on all subject and found this was a big plus for our club. I think we should have more of these meeting to create more interest in ham radio and our club. I know that two of the hams there wanted n application for our club.”

**Joseph Krisnosky N1IXC**



## W1AW 2013 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

FCC licensed amateurs may operate W1AW:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)

1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)

(Station closed:

1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Monday through Friday.

Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy.

## Monthly ARES Net

The monthly ARES Net is on the first Monday of the month at 8:30 PM on the MMRA Repeater system. This follows the MEMA Nets earlier in the evening.

Please see the following link from the MMRA web site detailing the repeaters that will be linked in through Hub 1:

[http://www.mmra.org/repeaters/repeater\\_index\\_by\\_linkstate.html](http://www.mmra.org/repeaters/repeater_index_by_linkstate.html)

When the Echo-IRLP node on the MMRA hub is available, they link to the New England Reflector system on IRLP 9123/Echolink Conference \*NEW-ENG\* Node: 9123.

Make this first Monday of the month, "Emergency Communications Night" and check into your local RACES Net and then check into the ARES Net on the MMRA Repeater System. We look forward to your participation and remember, we are always looking for Net Controls to run the ARES Net.

Thanks for your continued support of ARES!

**Robert Macedo (KD1CY)**

ARES SKYWARN Coordinator

EMA ARES Section Emergency Coordinator

<http://ares.ema.arrl.org>

## 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>)

## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### BUSINESS MEETING

First THURSDAY of the month @ 7 PM

**Sunday RAGCHEW** 7-10 AM

**Thursday COFFEE CROWD**

Dunkin Donuts, Bliss Corner, Dartmouth @ 1 PM

### Friday LUNCH BUNCH

Leave for LUNCH at **12 noon**

Gather @ clubhouse before 12

Call on the repeater, if you will be delayed or you can phone the club, 508-997-7070

# SEMARA News (cont.)

## EMA Hospital Net/ ARES District Drill

The April Eastern Mass. Hospital Net will take place this Saturday morning April 6th at 10:00hrs EDT and should not last longer than an hour. Net Control Station for this session will be St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford and will operate under the call sign of KA1RSY.

All Hospitals and Government EOC's are encouraged to participate, including Medical Reserve Corp (MRC), CERT Units and ARES home stations.

This net will begin at 1000hrs. on the Plymouth repeater. If for some reason you cannot make contact on a repeater please move to the next repeater on the list and stand by for the net to arrive. This will be a good exercise in seeing if stations can relay information in the event an emergency should happen. Not only will we be utilizing repeaters we will also be operating simplex. It will be interesting to see how many stations would be available for relay if need be.

This Saturday's net would be a good opportunity for RACES and ARES stations to check their equipment in preparation for the upcoming Hurricane season. Again this will be a short exercise lasting approximately one hour and everyone is invited to participate.

### April Net Frequencies:

in the order that they will be utilized:

Plymouth 146.685 tone 82.5

Bridgewater 147.180 tone 67.0

Dartmouth 147.000 tone 67.0

Falmouth 147.375 tone 110.9

Simplex 147.42

Then Return to Plymouth for comments and net closing.

~Ed (ka1rsy)



### NEXT VE SESSION @ SEMARA

April 6, 2013

Clubhouse @ 10:30 AM

Contact: **Fred-NITF**

exams[at]semara[dot]org

508-991-6055



## Project Bread Walk for Hunger

Greetings!

This is for Boston, MA area hams.

It is that time again... Public Service season is here. We are now looking for help for this year's **Project Bread Walk for Hunger** on *Sunday, May 5, 2013*.

This will be the 45th running of the event. We need people to provide communications support for the Project Bread Staff and volunteers along the **20 mile walk**.

If you are interested in helping out this year, go to <http://www.mmra.org/wfh/> to log in and fill out the signup form.

If you have questions please send an email to:

[wfh13 \[at\] mmra \[dot\] org](mailto:wfh13[at]mmra[dot]org)

*Eric - KAINCF*

*Walk For Hunger 2013*

*Amateur Radio Communications Coordinator*

## 1960s Ham Shack

### Don WN1PLT (now WA1PLT)



This Polaroid photo was found in Don's basement. It shows his Novice set up. The transmitter is on the right. The receiver is on the left. Anyone else start out this way?



**NATIONAL NC-270**



**HEATHKIT HW-60**

# SEMARA News (cont.)

## FLEAMARKET 2013



**Saturday, May 11, 2013  
9 AM to 2 PM Rain or Shine**

**GENERAL ADMISSION ONLY \$2.00!**

30+ YEARS OF FLEAMARKETS!

**Admission Includes  
One Raffle Ticket!**

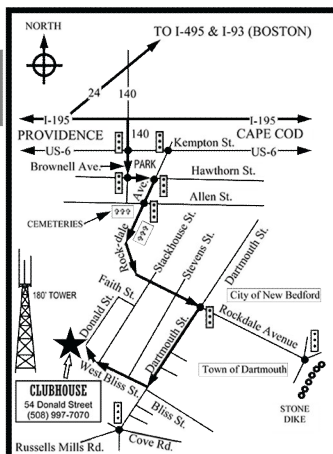
- **FREE ADMISSION** for SEMARA members and children under 12.
- **VENDORS \$10.00** admission fee. Setup begins at 8 AM.

Talk-in on W1AEC Repeaters:

- 147.000 + PL 67.0 ←
- 224.800 - PL 67.0 ←

54 DONALD STREET  
DARTMOUTH, MA 02748

More Information: **SEMARA.ORG**  
Call Eric, N1WCO at (508) 295-2468  
or email flea [at] semara [dot] org.



## Annual SEMARA Tailgate Fleamarket

**Saturday, May 11, 2013**

The Annual SEMARA Tailgate Flea Market *will happen this spring!*

Set-Up at 8:00 AM

Open 9:00 AM - 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.*

## Hammin' Around...

**E4E07** How can you determine if line noise interference is being generated within your home?

- By checking the power line voltage with a time domain reflectometer
- By observing the AC power line waveform with an oscilloscope
- By turning off the AC power line main circuit breaker and listening on a battery operated radio
- By observing the AC power line voltage with a spectrum analyzer

Did you pick answer *C. By turning off the AC power line main circuit breaker and listening on a battery operated radio*, the correct one answer?

I have a 30-old portable radio, which works great for noise finding. It runs on batteries and tunes the AM broadcast band - a bonus is its long internal ferrite bar antenna that makes direction-finding easy.

## An Idea for SEMARA?

From the *March 2013 EMA Section News*: "Police Amateur Radio Team (PART) of Westford will operate special events station **K1P** on April 15 to commemorate *Patriots' Day* in Massachusetts." said PART president **KB1OIQ**,

"Typically, we operate one radio in sideband mode, and use several operators. This is a great opportunity, especially for those with little experience on HF."

*This seems like a great way to garner some favorable publicity for SEMARA and give less experienced club members some exposure to HF conditions.*

*When we have our new radio room and a set of antennas to cover the HF bands, we could mount such an activity. For now, put on your thinking cap and identify a 'good' reason for a special event activity. We can use W1AEC for now.*

~Bob **K1KVV**, SEMARA Radio Activites

## Some Radio Events

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

### QSO Parties

**QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party** CW  
Apr 6, 1200Z-Apr 7, 2359Z 1.8-28

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

**Missouri QSO Party** Phone,CW  
Apr 6, 1800Z-see website 1.8-28

[www.w0ma.org](http://www.w0ma.org)

**Montana QSO Party** All modes  
Apr 13, 0000Z-Apr 15, 0000Z 1.8-28, 50-432

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

**New Mexico QSO Party** All modes  
Apr 13, 1400Z-Apr 14, 0200Z 1.8-28 50

[www.swcp.com/~n5zgt](http://www.swcp.com/~n5zgt)

**Georgia QSO Party** Phone, CW  
Apr 13, 1800Z-see website 1.8-28 50

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

**Michigan QSO Party** Phone, CW  
Apr 22, 1600Z-Apr 21, 0400Z 3.5-28

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

**Nebraska QSO Party** All modes  
Apr 20, 1800Z-Apr 21, 1800Z 1.8-28 50, 144

[www.qcwa.org/chapter025.htm](http://www.qcwa.org/chapter025.htm)

**South Dakota QSO Party** All modes  
Apr 20, 1800Z-Apr 21, 1800Z 1.8-28

[www.w0blk.org](http://www.w0blk.org)

**North Dakota QSO Party** Phone, CW  
Apr 20, 1800Z-Apr 21, 1800Z 1.8-28 50, 144

[www.w0nd.org](http://www.w0nd.org)

**Ontario QSO Party** Phone,CW  
Apr 20, 1800Z-see website 1.8-28 50, 144

[www.va3cco.com](http://www.va3cco.com)

**Florida QSO Party** Phone, CW  
Apr 27, 1600Z-see website 7-28

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

### ARRL Contest

**ARRL Rookie Roundup** Phone  
Apr 21, 1800Z-Apr 21, 2359Z 3.5-28

[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** Apr 6<sup>th</sup>

Fred-N1TF

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

508-991-6055



Falmouth, MA – 9:00 AM

Apr 13<sup>th</sup>

W. Ben Fleck-K2LYE

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

508-540-2583

Providence, RI – 600 PM

Apr 23<sup>rd</sup>

Robert E Jones-WB1P

[bgjones49 \[at\] verizon \[dot\] net](mailto:bgjones49@verizon.net)

401-333-4787

## Coming FLEAS & FESTS

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

- 7 April **Framingham MA** *FARA*  
Steve KB1NIV 508-872-9336
- 20 April **Gales Ferry CT** *RASON Auction*  
Gary WT1SND 860-884-4218
- 20 April **Portland ME** *PAWA*  
John W1JLB 207-776-2288
- 21 April **Cambridge MA** *FLEA @ MIT*  
Nick 617-253-3776
- 28 April **Manchester CT** *NEWS V/UHF Conf*  
Mark K1MAP 413-566-8118
- 3,4 May Deerfield NH** *NEARFest XIII*  
[Mike K1TWF 978-250-1235](mailto:Mike.K1TWF@978-250-1235)
- 11 May Dartmouth MA** *SEMARA Tailgate*  
[Eric N1WCO 508-295-2468](mailto:Eric.N1WCO@508-295-2468)
- 19 May **Cambridge MA** *FLEA at MIT*  
Nick 617-253-3776
- 1 June **Hermon ME** *PSARA*  
Jerry K1GUP 207-848-3400
- 15 June **Newington CT** *NARL*  
Vinnie W1VJA 203-987-2108
- 16 June **Cambridge MA** *FLEA at MIT*  
Nick 617-253-3776