

12-97

ZERO BEAT

Our 52nd Year

ARRL Affiliated Club

December 1997

HCRA Members Continue the Tradition

We have a new President and membership increases.

Barry Mason, N1IJK
Zero Beat Editor

On November 7th, the members of the Hampden County Radio Association met to discuss the future of the Club. Due to the lack of a person to serve as President, there was the very real possibility that the club would have to disband.

Luckily, this did not occur. Irv Slitzky, W6IS, stepped forward and volunteered to lead the club. Irv's commitment was contagious, and a complete Executive board was elected as well as 7 out of 8 Directors positions (the 8th is tentatively filled as Steve Nelson, WA1EYF has volunteered to fill the last position - thanks for your help, Steve!!).

The HCRA has had a long history in this

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Meet Your New President

Irv Slitzky, W6IS

Some of you that will be receiving this letter will not know who I am, so I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Irv Slitzky, W6IS. I have resided in the town of Longmeadow for the last two years.

I moved to this community from Los Angeles, California. I am a past president of the San Fernando Valley Amateur Radio Club, and as a member for many years I have held many leadership positions in that club. I have also been an active member of the Southern California DX club and actively participated in many DX and ARRL conventions.

I have also held the position of examiner in charge for the Greater Los Angeles Amateur Radio Group VEC. My favorite pastime is chasing DX. You all can get to know me a lot better, and I look forward to getting to know all of you folks a lot better. We realize because of one reason or another not everyone can commit to taking on a leadership role, but everyone can show their support by attending our club meetings, and the leadership of the club will make every effort to make every meeting interesting and enjoyable.

CU at the December meeting!

73,

de W6IS, Irv

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HCRA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

IRV SLITZKY W6IS

VICE - PRESIDENT

WALTER NERO WA1HHN

TREASURER

GREG STODDARD N1AEH

SECRETARY

JIM SEBOLT N1DUY

HCRA DIRECTORS

AL DRAKE N1CQT

CHARLES DUNLAP K1II

FRED GORE KA1TBS

BARRY MASON N1IJK

DON MISH N1JOI

PETER RUSSELL KE1DQ

GEORGE WALSH K1RBS

STEVE NELSON WA1EYF (nominated)

From the President's Desk

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches we find our weather cooling down and the HF band conditions heating up. I hope each of you have a terrific Thanksgiving and that all of you DX enthusiasts enjoy the propagation upswing of solar cycle 23.

The December 5 club meeting features Ed Hare, lab director of the ARRL. He will address the RF Safety evaluation rules that go into effect in the very near future. The club will also provide Holiday refreshments to help celebrate the upcoming holidays and the rekindling of the HCRA.

I would like to thank all of you that attended the November meeting for giving the newly elected officers your enthusiastic support.

HCRA 1998 CALENDAR

(In the event of inclement weather, tune into the MTARA repeater, on 146.94 MHz, or listen to your local broadcast station for a possible cancellation notice)

JANUARY	9	CLUB MEETING
	15	BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY	6	CLUB MEETING
	12	BOARD MEETING
MARCH	6	CLUB MEETING
	12	BOARD MEETING
APRIL	3	CLUB MEETING
	9	BOARD MEETING
MAY	1	CLUB MEETING
	7	BOARD MEETING
JUNE	5	ANNUAL MEETING
	11	BOARD MEETING
	—	FIELD DAY
JULY		NO CLUB MEETING
AUGUST		NO CLUB MEETING
	12	BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER	11	CLUB MEETING
	17	BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER	2	CLUB MEETING
	8	BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER	6	ANNUAL AUCTION!
	13	BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER	4	CLUB MEETING
	10	BOARD MEETING

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area as a resource to both the ham community as well as the community at large. Although no one wanted the Club to disband, as with any other organization, it is sometimes hard to find people that will commit time and energy to keep things going. Thanks to W6IS and others, HCRA can continue as a local resource. How about you? The club could still use a hand with its' new Elmer program (see more on this page) or as the coffee and donut person's). Talk to one of the officers or board members at the meeting, and help keep the tradition going!

MEET YOUR NEW BOARD MEMBER!

Each month Zero Beat would like to take time to introduce a member of the Board of Directors. This month we feature Charlie Dunlap, K111.

Hello, I'm Charlie Dunlap, K111. I have been licensed since 1957 and am the trustee for W1MM Pioneer Chapter 183 Quarter Century Wireless Association, and KBICDL Southwick Auxiliary Police Association. My XYL is NIEVE and the Harmonics are N1EHS, N1FMT, N1IED, and N1FFZ. I served four years in the military, retired from AT&T after twenty six years, and presently work for the Southwick - Tolland School System. I am the Emergency Management Director for the Town of Southwick, and life member of the following: Telephone Pioneers, ARRL, and QCWA. I hold ARRL appointments as ARES Assistant Emergency Coordinator Hampden County - West, Emergency Operating Station, and Volunteer Examiner.

I have been a member of the Hampden County Radio Association since the late 50's, with several short breaks for military duty and raising a family. My interests in radio are antennas, QRP DX, VHF contesting, lightning/grounding protection, and mostly Emergency Communication with RACES and ARES associated with local government Emergency Operations Centers.

In the past I have been on the HCRA Board of Directors, contributing writer for Zero Beat, Field Day committees, worked exam sessions, and taught code and theory radio classes for new and upgrading amateurs. Also I am the radio/electricity merit badge counselor for Southwick Boy Scout Troop 114.

My intention is to serve the HCRA so it will continue as a full service general radio club as it has been since its' founding, continuously serving the local region in public service, working for and with our members. The HCRA has been a positive influence in my life as I look back to what it has done for me. I am proud to be a serving member.

Sincerely,
Charlie, K111

BECOME AN ELMER!!

The HCRA is looking to publish a list of members who would be willing to act as an Elmer to either members or new Hams. We have always touted the experience our club contains and at the Board meeting it was suggested that perhaps we could list members who would be willing to help out with question. Zero Beat would list the name, call, and area of expertise (antennas, soldering, microwave, etc.,) that you would be willing to answer questions for. If desired, we would also list a telephone number and times to call. Remember, the knowledge you take for granted, may be just the piece of information someone needs to solve a problem with a station or project. Let a Board member know at the December meeting, and share the wealth of knowledge you possess!

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

by Charlie Dunlap, K111

A Simulated Emergency Test communications drill was held in Hampden County on two consecutive evenings, October 30 and 31, 1997, involving RACES, ARES, SKY-WARN and interested amateurs. Emergency Management Agency representatives from Granville, Southwick, and Westfield Emergency Operation Centers also participated. The scenario for evening one was an overload to Emergency 911 dispatch centers due to seasonal Halloween activity. On the second evening a simulation of multiple communities experiencing Emergency 911 telephone difficulty (overload) took place. All stations checking in were requested to give calls phonetically, name, location, power source, emergency affiliation, a precipitation report, distance to the nearest trailer park, and years licensed.

Net control was KBICDL, operating from a mobile communications center at Southwick - Tolland Regional school grounds using two meter simplex with 150 watts and a twenty foot vertical antenna. Participating amateurs for the S.E.T. were:

N1MUV Tom from Wilbraham, N1DGQ Frank from Chicopee, N1MOC Keith from Southwick, WA1JUJ Kevin from Granville, N1EVE Pauline from Southwick, KE1FI Paul from Westfield, N1XOS Cindy from Westfield, KDIUB Pete from Westfield, N1KHG Bob from Monson, N1QKO Eric from Westover AFB, N1SR Steve from Chicopee, N1LYJ Dan from Springfield, K1YXX Phil from Hampden, N1WHA Bernie from Southwick, and K111 Charlie from Southwick. The drill lasted 30 minutes each evening with a discussion and critique following each session.

I wish to thank all participants for their effort.

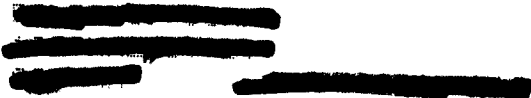
The next meeting of the
Hampden County Radio Association
is on
Friday,
December 5, 1997
At the Feeding Hills
Congregational Church

In the event of inclement weather, please listen to the MTARA repeater (146.94, (-) offset) for
cancellation information

Barry Mason, N1IJK, Editor
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Springfield, MA 01108



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