

10-94



# Zero Beat



Hampden County Radio Association, Inc. - our 47th ARRL affiliated year

October 1994

Volume 3 Issue 2

## H.C.R.A. Notes.....

Last month's HCRA meeting featured an informative meeting about packet radio. Special thanks go out to Mike Tracy KC1SX who gave the presentation. The 36 people who attended left with a little more knowledge about the fascinating topic of packet radio.

Speaking of packet, the HCRA is looking for someone to take over the packet BBS. Anyone interested must own their own equipment and are subject to board approval. Anyone interested should contact any board member at the next meeting.

It is also that time of year to renew your HCRA membership. You will find an application on page 3 of this issue. For the first time in many years, due to increased costs, the HCRA was forced to increase dues this year to \$13.00. In addition to renewing yourself, consider telling a friend about our club and bring them to an upcoming meeting. The HCRA would like to continue to grow even more. Please try and get your application in as soon as possible.



The HCRA would like to congratulate the following members: Greg Stoddard N1AEH, Jim Sebolt N1DUY, Steve Nelson WA1EYF, and Charlie Dunlap K1II. These members were recognized at the September meeting for outstanding service to the HCRA and to the general ham community.

Upcoming Meetings for the remainder of the year include: November 4, the annual auction. The rules will be the same as last year and will be printed in the November Zero Beat. And December 2, the annual holiday social.

## Next HCRA Meeting.....

The next Hampden County Radio Association meeting will take place on Friday night, October 7, 1994 and will be an open forum type meeting. Come and give us your feedback. We are open to new ideas this year.

**Feeding Hills  
Congregational Church  
JCT of Routes 57 & 187  
Feeding Hills, Massachusetts**

The next board meeting will take place on October 13th, 1994 and will be at Greg Stoddard's QTH. If you are interested in attending, please ask Greg N1AEH for directions at the next meeting. Remember, anyone can attend the board meetings.

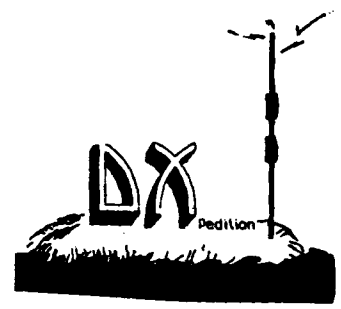
## World Radio Event Planned...

Amateurs in the Washington, DC, especially in the nation's capital, area have announced an ambitious plan to sponsor a World Radiosport Team Championship in July 1995. It would be patterned after the WRTC held in Seattle in 1990 in conjunction with the 1990 Goodwill Games. This time, instead of being a "stand alone" radio event, "WRTC-95" would be held within the IARU HF Championship contest held annually in July.

The Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC) will lead the organization of WRTC-95, and expects many other clubs and individuals in the Washington - Baltimore area to help. The PVRC is dedicating the event to Len Chertok W3GRF, who died in 1994 after a distinguished career as a contester as well as an Elmer.

The 1990 event provided a wealth of public relations for Amateur Radio and the 1995 Championship stands to do likewise, *Continued on Page 2*

The HCRA is geared for another great year!! The entire board has been filled and we are busy at work looking to make this year as good as last. See page 2 for the new board listing.



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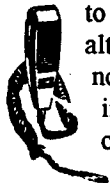
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## World Radio Event (Cont.).....

both members of a team must live in the same ITU zone. The administrators will accept applications from interested competitors until December 31, 1994, and applications will be accepted both from individuals and from "teams." The administrators will then evaluate the applications and name a team for each ITU zone from which an application has been received. Operators will be responsible for their own travel and living expenses while in the Washington area. (The administrators plan to help competitors in locating appropriate local housing.)

In the same manner as WRTC-90, a number of local amateurs will open their stations to competitors; some 50 in the Washington area are anticipated

to be needed. Selected teams and alternate operators shall be notified by the Administration in March or April 1995. The organizers also hope to be able



to accommodate alternate teams and additional zone teams in some manner.

Each team will enter the multi-single mixed-mode class of the IARU contest and will follow the contest rules. The stations will be chosen to have similar equipment and antennas, as in Seattle. This time, a PacketCluster connection will be available at each WRTC QTH for full use, and computer logging will be required. Also as in Seattle, teams will be assigned stations at random, after their arrival in the DC area, and call signs shortly before the 24-hour contest begins.

Co-chairmen for WRTC-95 are Eric L. Scace, K3NA, and Howard Leake, W6AXX. The administrative office is in care of Hayman Systems, 14700 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD



## You Know When Your a Ham When...

1. The mail arrives and you read your radio magazines before you balance your bank statement.
  2. The lawn needs mowing but you keep putting it off to work rare DX
  3. You turn a family outing that was supposed to be a Sunday drive, into a stop at a HamFest.
  4. Each passing lightning storm makes you shudder to think what is happening at the home QTH.
  5. You send out more QSL cards than greeting cards.
  6. You use your HT more than your telephone.
  7. You or someone in your family is named ELMER.
  8. You pick up the telephone and find yourself giving your callsign to the other party, who doesn't know what you are saying.
  9. You go to a neighborhood party and upon introduction someone says, "Oh yes, you're at the house with all the antennas!"
  10. Tubing down the local creek, you send out a call as Maritime Mobile.
- Joel Slazyk AA2PP

## President's Message

**G**reetings! I hope this letter finds you all well. I myself am a little sore from my "jaunt" up Mt. Manadnock, N.H.. A friend invited me to go for a "hike", and it seemed like a good idea at the time, although I knew I was out of shape! To make a long story (climb) short, BOY, was I out of shape! The mountain is 3,134 feet high, with some very steep grades. you don't need a rope, but you do need a good pair of hiking shoes. Of course I brought my HT, and that made it worth the trip. I hit any repeater I tried including most of the local ones here (I didn't try to hit them all). I am very much hooked on mountaintopping now although there is much more planning involved than a casual portable operation. Now all I've got to do is tune my QRP receiver, and I'm there. Elevation is GREAT! Anyone interested in information or directions, see me at the meeting.

There were only two inquiries for upgrade classes, one for General, and one for Advanced, so at this point we are on hold, but stay tuned. Unfortunately, all three potential speakers for this month had last minute scheduling problems, so this month, we will hold an open forum. Come on down, have a cup of coffee on us, and let us know what direction you would like the club take. Both suggestions and gripes are welcome.

Remember, the annual auction IS on for November, so make plans now to be there. Before I go I would like to take a moment to thank Mike Tracy, KC1SX, once again for an informative basic packet program. I received a lot of good feedback on the program. Until Friday,

73,

Barry N1IJK

## 1994-95 H.C.R.A. Board of Directors



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**Zero Beat:** Kevin Hillinski NR1L - Editor, Mike Griffin N1FOW & Barry Mason N1IJK - Zero Beat Assistance (printing, folding & stamps)