



Our 59th Year

Zero Beat

A Publication of the Hampden County Radio Association

<http://www.hcra.org>

Meetings Held at: **Feeding Hills Congregational Church**
21 North Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA



April, 2005

THIS MONTH'S MEETING



CTRI

Connecticut & Rhode Island Contest Group

K11JN will be in to talk about "DXpeditioning"

As always, there will be
Good Times, Good Conversation,
And Good Friends

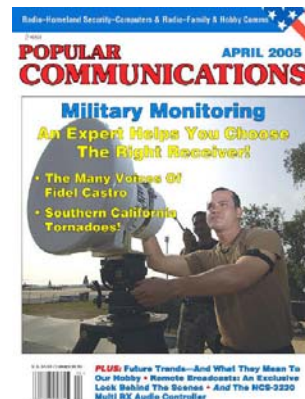
This FRIDAY, April 1st, 7:30 PM

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

Friday, May 6th

Harold Ort - N2RLL

Editor of Popular Communications



In this months edition

President's Corner.....	Page 2
HCRA Contacts	Page 3
Morse Code Class Announcement.....	Page 4
Notes From Venture Crew DX	Page 4
Get On-The-Air	Page 5
Field Day Planning Starts TODAY	Page 6
HCRA Board of Directors Minutes	Page 7
Dr. Dx	Page 8
HCRA History - 1982 VHF Contest	Page 9
Skywarn Classes / Weather Net	Page 9



President's Corner

April Meeting

A different view of contesting.

This month brings another unique meeting to our club. It's always interesting when members of another club stop by and relate how they get fun out of our wonderful hobby. This meeting will be no exception when the CTRI contest group visits HCRA.



Contesting as it should be!

What is the CTRI contest group? Connecticut and Rhode Island are what the CTRI stands for, I'll let you figure out the rest. They are a very active group of folks that do some really exciting things. Very strong into DX'ing and contesting these hams make it a point to visit some unusual but 'warm' places. A quick click through their web site (<http://members.cox.net/wa1rr/>) will give you some idea of what they are all about. Take a look at the slide shows - looks like fun, doesn't it? In addition to an outstanding web site CTRI had a very well done booth at Boxboro last year. An active club that should be able to give HCRA some ideas to run with during the next few years.

Seeing how other successful clubs is always a great thing. We are all proud of our club and its accomplishments but there is always something to be learned from what works well for others. I'm certain the CTRI group will go back home with some good ideas from HCRA too. We don't live in a vacuum and exchanges like this are good for both clubs.



So make time this coming Friday to come to a club meeting. Bring a friend, sit back, and enjoy a great presentation. Spring and the (ughh) yard work are just around the corner. Take this opportunity to spend some quality time with your ham friends.

Prior to the start of the meeting at 7:30 John, N1JIO will be holding another installment of Tech Corner at 7:00. I hope to see everyone there.

The May Blockbuster Meeting

Harold Ort, N2RLL - Editor of Popcomm

Communications is a constantly changing subject. Next month N2RLL, editor of Popular Communications, will be stopping by HCRA before heading to the Dayton Hamfest. Harold will be bringing our members up to date on all things important about the communications hobby. In addition to the ham perspective N2RLL will also be discussing the impact of BPL, short-wave listening, stuff for scanner and weather enthusiasts and lots more.

If you have never seen an issue of Popular Communications I urge you to stop by your local newsstand or Barnes & Noble and purchase a current edition. I think you will be surprised at not only the many (and changing) aspects of radio communication but how much you may be missing by just reading the ham radio magazines. There is nothing like learning about how others use radio to have fun. Who knows, you may go home and immediately start turning the dial on your general coverage receiver to hear some exciting new things!

I expect a full house for this meeting so plan on arriving early to get a great seat. It isn't often we get the opportunity to host such an important speaker. As always, use this opportunity to bring a friend. The more we get interested in radio the stronger our club will be.

Are you Ready for NEQP

The 4th NE needs your support!



May 7th and 8th is the fourth running of NEQP. What's NEQP? You don't know? Well folks, it's a contest, but a fun one that doesn't require a lot of time commitment on your part. Started just four years ago NEQP is a combination of the individual New England states QSO parties. Back then interest in the QSO parties was waning and a few hams (including our ARRL NE Director K1KI) got together and crafted a QSO party that brought all the New England states together for one party. Since that start it's been a great success and gets better every year.

The contest starts at 4:00 PM on Saturday, May 7th. The four-o'clock starting time lets you attend Hosstraders in NH and not have to miss either the hamfest or the contest. It ends Sunday morning at 1:00AM, then begins again at 9 :00 AM running until 8:00 PM Sunday evening (all times given are local, EDT time). The object is to work as many stations as possible but the real fun is putting your county on the air so others outside of New England can get all 67 of them!

HCRA sponsors a beautiful plaque for the ham that gets the highest score in Hampden County. Dave, KB1MU and Dave, WN1E (ex-AA1MM) won the awards in '02 and '03. The 2004 winner is yet to be announced. I wonder if you have to be named Dave?

Although there are a lot of hams in Hampden and Hampshire county these counties have not been very active. Last year there were only eleven hams on the air from Hampden county, and only four from Hampshire. Would you like to be on the receiving end of a pile up? Then get on the air from Hampshire county (mobile or base) and have fun!

There are a lot of other awards available, both from within and outside of New England. Visit, <http://www.neqp.org> to see them all. One fun thing to do in this contest is to go mobile and work as many counties in NE as you can over the two days. I've done this twice in the last three years and it was a great experience. Why not think of activating our club call, W1NY, for the contest this year? It's fun, exciting and not very demanding. Give it a try, I guarantee you will enjoy it.

Tech Class is nearing the end

Over a dozen new hams will be on the air soon.

HCRA's third technician class is nearing completion. Thanks to Peter, K1I1 and his cadre of instructors this class should produce a bumper crop of new hams. So what does this have to do with you? Well, think back to when you first got your license. Did you know what radio to buy, how to put up an antenna, solder a PL259 and most importantly - make that first, on-the-air contact. I'm sure you will remember it wasn't especially easy, was it?

When this new group hits the airwaves they will need our help and guidance. Whatever you can do to make those first contacts happen will make a big difference to these new hams. If you (and other club members like you) take the time to coach and mentor (the old term is Elmer) the better the chance they will become active hams pursuing an interesting hobby. If we ignore them might not go beyond passing their test. It's up to you. Passing the test is just the first step on the path to a fun and rewarding hobby. You can make the difference, and as an HCRA member I know you will - thanks!

See you at the meeting!

73... Jim, KK1W

HCRA CONTACTS

Questions, Comments, and
Suggestions Can Be Directed To:

HCRA OFFICERS

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Wear it Proudly!
HCRA Name Badges



Only \$6.00. Available for order at any club meeting, or call or drop
an email for immediate service!

Show the world you belong to the oldest club in the Pioneer Valley.

Jim, KK1W : jmullen@rockys.com or (413) 245-3228

OUR
SUPPORTERS
PLEASE

WE NEED YOUR SUGGESTIONS

We are asking for your suggestions and ideas for future HCRA meetings. The recent success of HCRA has been, in part, because of its interesting and timely key speakers and topics.

If you can help, please contact

Larry, WB1DBY, 567-3505, wb1dby@arrl.net

Have you tried IRLP yet?

IRLP is the Internet Radio Linking Project, connecting radios over the Internet. With your 2m radio, you make contacts all over the world.

HCRA sponsors an IRLP node, in South Hadley, MA.

It is there for your use, please give it a try

(at least turn it on and listen)

146.46 simplex, 114.8hz PL

Kx1x, Node #7270,

S.Hadley, MA

HCRA sponsored Morse Code Class???

I was asked at the last board meeting to study the feasibility of creating a Morse code class for the HCRA. My initial reaction to it was "what?...who...me?" Among the board I have become known as the "minister of education". In an effort to live up to my reputation, I have been thinking out loud to myself (no...got no money in the bank) but sure makes for an interesting day when people observe this. I really got myself into trouble when I actually started writing stuff down. I started a new web page on the club web site http://www.hcra.org/morse_academy.htm and some of you might want to check it out. This thing is still in the idea stage right now so that's where you come in. Check out what is up on the web site and let me know if you might have an additional idea to add to what is already up there. Eventually we will need teachers and students. I can add those things up there too and thus start that organization as we are kicking around the ideas about how such a class might run.



Interested in teaching? Send me an email.
Interested in being a student in the class? Send me an email.
Got an idea? Send me an email.
Just want to say hi? You know....send...

The HCRA, through the efforts of many many dedicated people in recent years has been a great place for hams to gather and share their hobby. We have had many new hams come into our fold and a lot is happening in the club as a result. Our club looks good through the efforts of our members. Come and be part of that excitement and share it with others. Participate in the activities of your club. We are all better for it.

Best 73s, de Peter, K11I



BSA Venture Crew 510

NE1C - New England's #1 Crew

BSA Venture Crew 510 is chartered by the Hampden County Radio Association

Visit Crew DX's 100% youth designed website:

<http://www.qsl.net/crewdx>



BSA VENTURE CREW 510 Contacts

Youth President	Luke Dyson, KB1ISP	luke@penguinia.net
Adult Advisor	John Pise, Kx1x (413) 532-7474	kx1x@arrl.net
Adult Advisor	Dave Cain, AA1YW	aa1yw@arrl.net

BSA VENTURE CREW 510 - CALENDAR

HCRA/Crew Meeting April 1st
Hike for Scouting, Chicopee, April 9th
NEQP contest/Campout, Way -Northern Vermont (Biff, AA1DI's Cabin), May 6,7,8
RAFFLE Drawing, May 6th
Ham Radio Demo, Webelos Woods, Moses Scout Reservation, June 3, 4, 5

*Tickets are still available for our
27" TV and DVD Player Raffle
\$5 for a book of 6 tickets, ask any Crew Member
Drawing May 6th, 2005*

On the Internet
<http://www.hcra.org>
Updated often to bring you timely Amate
news and info

IRLP Node #7270
146.46 Mhz -- PL 114.8
A free service of HCRA
See www.hcra.org

Next Meeting:
Friday, May 6th, 2005
Harold Ort - N2RLL
Editor of Popular
Communications

Get Your Zero Beat Electronically each month

HCRA members can receive their monthly club newsletter in any or all of three ways!

- 1) First Class Mail, just like you always have. This costs HCRA approximately 75 cents per copy. This is one of the benefits of your membership with HCRA.
- 2) E-mail. If you would like to get on our e-mail list, just write eZB@hcra.org from the account that you wish to receive your copy from, and request that you join our list. HCRA respects your privacy and will not under any circumstances give your e-mail address to ANYONE.
- 3) WWW.HCRA.ORG. Our new web site carries the latest copies of Zero Beat. Just click and read.

NOTE 1: You will need Adobe Acrobat ® installed on your computer to read electronic copies of Zero Beat. Just click the button on the WWW.HCRA.ORG website, and follow the directions to get your FREE copy of Adobe Acrobat ®.

NOTE 2: There is a cost savings to the HCRA if you receive your Zero Beat electronically only. If you prefer to NOT receive your newsletter by First Class Mail, please contact John, Kx1x, Steve, N1SR, or Jim, KK1W, to be added to the eZB only list.

Get On The Air

(all times local)

Mon., Tues, Thur, Fri	19:00	National Traffic Sys (NTS) Net	146.94 (W1TOM)
Sundays	08:45	Western Mass Emergency Net	146.94 (W1TOM)
Mondays	19:30	HCRA 10m Net	28.375
Wednesdays	19:30	MTARA Info net	146.94 and 147.000 (link) (W1TOM)
	20:00	MTARA Swap net	
(right after SWAP net)		N1RLX Memorial Simplex Net	Starts on 146.94, then moves to a simplex frequency
Thursdays	21:00	Northern CT Weather Net	146.79(-) PL 82.5 (except 2 nd week, on 147.000)

Club Meetings & Testing Sessions

1 st Friday of the month	19:30	HCRA Club Meeting	Feeding Hills Congregational Church 21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills
3 rd Monday of January, April, July, and October		KD1XP License Exams	Amherst Machine Amherst, MA
		Contact Richard, KD1XP, 413-665-2211 or 145.130 Repeater	
		http://www.kd1xp.org	
3 rd Friday of the month	19:30	MTARA Club meeting	Red Cross building 506 Cottage St, SPFLD, MA
		http://www.mtara.org	
4 th Friday of the month	18:00	WMVET License Exams	Holyoke Hospital Auditorium Beech St., Holyoke
		Contact Dave, W1FAB, W1FAB@arrl.net	
4 th Sunday of the month	19:00	NOBARC club meeting	Pittsfield MA (146.91 for talk-in)

W1NY ON THE AIR

Join us each week on the HCRA 10m Net!

Join NCS, Tom Doyle (n1muv), each Monday night at 7:30 PM (local) on 28.375 Mhz (+/- QRM)

Get the latest local word, join good friends, take part in good conversation each week!!!

Anyone (with HF privs) can join in, don't be shy!!!

KD1XP Repeater Group News

53.350 (-) PL 71.9 Amherst, MA
145.130 (-) PL 173.8 Amherst, MA
442.200 (+) PL 162.2 Deerfield, MA (near Greenfield)
443.450 (+) PL 173.8 Leyden, MA (near Greenfield)
443.700 (+) PL 71.9 Belchertown, MA

. The next ham radio testing session will be on Monday, April 18th at Amherst Machine on Cowls Road in Amherst, MA. ALL test elements given. Contact Richard, KD1XP at 665-2211 for details

Breakfast meetings every first Saturday of the month at Bickfords in Northampton. Talk in on the 145.130 repeater.

www.kd1xp.org

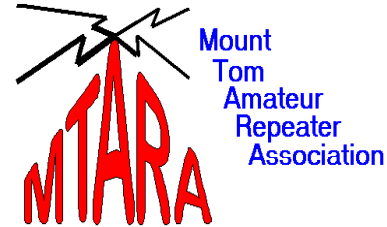
KD1XP
repeater group

Mt. Tom Amateur Repeater Assn. News

www.mtara.org

Info Net, Wednesdays at 7:30 PM local
146.94 (-) or 147.000 (+) with Joe, NA1X, net control

Meetings on the
3rd Friday of the Month, 7:30
Red Cross Building, Cottage St., Spfld
Next Meeting, Friday April 15th
At the Red Cross Building



HCRA Field Day, The W1NY way **June 25, 26, 27, 2005** **Dufresne Park, Granby, MA**

Rumors abound, spring is on its way, or so, the optimists say. Well, maybe so. This morning, in spite of the fact that my car's windshield was covered by rime frost, the sound of birdcalls filled the air. Moreover, I would swear that one call sounded like "Field Day", "Field day." Call me crazy or at best, a wishful thinker but I have had Field Day 2005 on my mind for a while. So, when a little bird tells you it's time for field day planning, then it's time for field day planning. It's not nice to fool with Mother Nature!

Let's make April 1, 2005, the official opening date for our Field Day 2005 planning. It's no joke and you will be no fool when you throw your hat in the ring and join Peter K111 and me as the HCRA begins its planning efforts for this year's field day exercise. Last year was the dynamic duo's (chuckle) first effort at putting a field day together and by all reports; we did well; but we're not resting on any laurels. We feel that with your involvement and your efforts, the HCRA can have an even better event this year. We already have put a deposit on DeFresne Park in Granby Massachusetts - the same site that we've used for the last several years. Steve N1SR, our antenna Czar, is already hard at work optimizing an antenna plan that will give us an edge during what will most likely be a challenging period propagation wise. Andy, KB1FVL, has agreed to provide the fine cuisine that has become a hallmark of every HCRA field day. You remember the melt in your mouth tripod-oven pot roast. Well, I do and I plan to purchase my meal ticket for all meals that Andy and crew will be serving. John Kx1x has opened the Yahoo HCRA Field Day group site... this is an invitation for all interested parties to sign up for access and join in the fun as we plan and implement the ARRL 2005 Field Day exercise the HCRA way.

'73 de Marty, W1MJB

RMS Titanic Memorial Special Event Station

Do you enjoy working special event stations? Do you enjoy operating special event stations?

Coming up on April 9 through April 15 there is an opportunity to do either or both. The Titanic Historical Society is again celebrating the anniversary of the voyage of the RMS Titanic. (This year is the 93rd anniversary.) Primary operations will be on 7.260 SSB and 14.260 SSB. Depending upon propagation and volunteers, we will also have operations on CW (7.033, and 14.033), PSK31, and SSB or FM on 6 meters, 2 meters and 440 MHz. Normal hours from the museum will be 1430 Z through 2130 Z. We will also be operating from homes at other hours (mostly evenings). If you want additional information contact me at either 413-596-6605 or kb1mu@charter.net If you are interested in operating, contact me at the above address also.

Thanx, de Dave, KB1MU

Dr. DX



For DX months, April has never been widely regarded. Spring – and then summer – are on their way in, and that means warm weather. Warm weather, of course, means that you have no reason to escape to anywhere exotic.

Don't fear, however...there are still plenty of good reported operations, and of course there are the few who don't report themselves.

There are no major contests this month. With WPX SSB just gone by, it will be May before WPX CW rolls in (actually, May 28-29). This is a good month to start thinking about antenna projects for the next "season". If you have some aluminum that needs to go up, start planning! The weather is good, and the ground is getting softer every day.

Speaking of contests and aluminum, don't forget about the New England QSO Party (May 7-8). Again, a month away, but good to start thinking about. Who knows? If you claim high score for Hampden County, you get a beautiful plaque brought to you by none other than HCRA. It is nice to be on the *other* side of the pileups for a change.

Start	End	Entity	Call	QSL	Info
2005 Apr01	2005 Apr09	Cayman Islands	ZF2UJ	K4UJ	By K4UJ fm Grand Cayman Is; 80 40 20 17 12 10m; CW SSB; 100 watts; wire antenna; fm north side of island
2005 Apr01	2005 Apr15	Bolivia	CP6	DF9GR	By DF9GR as CP6/DF9GR fm southern Bolivia; 80-10m; mainly CW RTTY PSK; QSL OK via DARC Buro
2005 Apr03	2005 May05	Dominican Republic	HI8	IK2DUW	By IW2OAZ fm Sto Domingo and Bayahibe; QSL OK via Buro
2005 Apr04	2005 Apr10	Svalbard	JW	F8DVD	By F8DVD as JW/F8DVD fm Longyearbyen; all HF bands; mainly SSB; QSL OK via REF Buro or direct
2005 Apr04	2005 Apr12	South Cook Islands	ZK1APX	AI5P	By AI5P; 40-10m; CW
2005 Apr07	2005 Apr11	Macao	XX9	JA0SC	By JA0SC; 20 15 10m; SSTV RTTY; QRV for NVCG SSTV Contest
2005 Apr20	2005 May08	Mongolia	JT1Y	I0SNY	By I0SNY; Apr 25-26 as JT2Y from Choybalsan, Khosbayar; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2005 Apr22	2005 Apr25	Liechtenstein	HB0	Home Call	By IZ1DSH IK1WEG IZ1GDB as HB0/homecall; 80-10m; CW SSB; QSL OK via ARI Buro or direct
2005 Apr22	2005 Apr25	Luxembourg	LX	Home Call	By ON4BAG ON4LO ON6QX ON6UM as LX/homecall; 160-10m; SSB CW Digital; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2005 Apr22	2005 Apr26	Liechtenstein	HB0	Home Call	By IZ1DSH IZ1GDB as HB0/homecall fm Gaflei Malbun; 80 40 20 30m; CW SSB; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2005 Apr23	2005 May01	Egypt	SU8IOTA	SU1SK Direct	By SU1HM SU1SK SU2TA SU1SA fm Disuqi Is (AF-NEW) in the Nile Delta and Sinai Region Group: QSL: Said Kamel, PO Box 190, New Ramsis Center, Cairo 11794, Egypt

Play some radio this month! I see a couple HB0's up there, an SU8, even a ZK and JW. That is surely enough to keep you busy. Until next time, 73', de Mike DeChristopher KB1FWN

HCRA Board of Directors Meeting

March 9, 2005

Held at the home of Larry Krainson, WB1DBY.

Meeting called to order at 7:00PM by Marty, W1MJB (Vice President)

Members present: Marty, W1MJB; Greg, N1AEH; Larry, WB1DBY; John, N1JIO; Peter, K1II; Jim, KB1JVF & Steve, N1SR

Members absent: Jim, KK1W; John, Kx1x; Venture Crew

Vice President W1MJB:

Marty indicated that the March meeting went well, although the participation in the "Show & Tell" was low.

Marty requested \$40 to "renew" the HCRA sponsorship for the NEQP Highest Single Op score in Hampden County Plaque. -

Approved

Treasurer N1AEH:

Present balance in the treasure is \$4063.

Greg received various payments for Student books and paid out for the NEQP HCRA Award.

Secretary N1SR:

Handed out copies of latest roster, total regular and life membership is 103. No minutes were available for the previous Board meeting.

Program WB1DBY:

- The March meeting event was a Show & Tell Competition. The "expert" winner was Dave, KB1MU, for his display of emergency communication innovative tools. The "novice" winner was Jim, KB1JXP, for a kit-built moisture sensor. Competition was discouragingly low, publicity and participant encouragement needs to be improved to justify next year's event.

- Raffle prizes for upcoming meetings have been received as ordered.

- Upcoming meeting speakers:

April - Joe, K1JN from the CTRI Contest Group

May - Harold Ort - N2RLL Editor of Popular Communications

- Larry has completely filled all 2004/2005 speaking engagements. He is actively looking now for September & October. If anyone has suggestions please forward them to WB1DBY.

Membership K1II:

- Technician course continues, Kx1x & Luke gave excellent presentation at last class session. One student has currently passes the Tech class exam and is waiting for the license (Mark Cote - KB1MCH).

- After accounting for book sales associated with the Technician Class, Peter has 6 "Now Your Talking" books remaining.

ZeroBeat Kx1x:

- Marty read an email from John indicating the present status and his intention of resigning from the Editor's job of Zero Beat as of June 2005.

- Ann Mullen, N1RJJ has indicated her willingness to take over the position of Zero Beat Editor as of June 2005.

Technical N1JIO:

Discussed possible future subjects and additional people to present topics.

At Large KB1JVF:

Jim is working on a possible Special Event station at the Barnes Airshow scheduled for 27 Aug 05. Dan O'Brien, N1IVT has volunteered his assistance.

Venture Crew: Absent

Crew Raffle at MTARA Flea went well.

Old Business:

1. Dufresne Park deposit has been sent.

2. Field Day plans progress. Andy, KB1FVL is willing to duplicate his past excellent effort in providing meals. Andy is planning a similar menu to FD-2004.

New Business:

1. Election: Several Board members have indicated their desire to either leave the Board or change positions resulting in openings for the coming year.

2. Boston Marathon needs additional volunteers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

The HCRA thanks Larry and Faye for their hospitality.

Respectfully submitted Steve Rodowicz, N1SR

Club Competition
Club Name

Score

Unlimited Category

Mt. Airy VHF RC (DE/NJ/PA)	1,105,610
Rochester VHF Group (NY)	755,616
Rochester ARC (MN)	77,824

Medium Category

Hampden Co. PA (MA)	282,094
Ramapo Mountain ARC (NJ)	220,124
Potomac Area VHF Society (MD/VA)	151,814
Warminster ARC (PA)	144,282
West Jersey Radio Amateurs	126,756
South Jersey RA	125,044
Murphy's Marauders (CT)	108,754
Six Meter Club of Chicago	46,510
Mobile Sixers RC (PA)	29,062

Local Category

Delaware Valley VHF Society (PA)	85,662
Palos Verdes ARC (CA)	54,282
Barnstormers ARC (MA)	45,392
Suburban ARC (NJ/PA)	42,174
A.W.A.R.E. (DE)	41,666
Wellesley ARS (MA)	34,330
Gloucester County ARC (NJ)	33,006
Penn Wireless Assn. (PA)	30,364
Dutchess Co. VHF Society (NY)	30,364
MIT Radio Society (MA)	21,578
Long Island Mobile ARC	21,218
Montgomery ARC (PA)	18,730
Rochester DX Assn. (NY)	15,312

Recognize
any of
these old
callsigns???

HCRA History
1982 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes
thanx to Tom. KA1MDA. for this reprint

<u>STATION</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>QSOs</u>	<u>GRIDS</u>	<u>BANDS</u>
Western Massachusetts				
AC1T	12240	240	14	ABC
WA1VCU	7480	165	12	BD
WA1PLS	7084	144	12	ABC
K1SF	6700	120	15	ABCD
W1JP	6644	151	12	AB
N1PF	5544	119	12	ABD
W1WLE	5382	117	13	AB
K1BE	5376	128	11	AB
WB1ABF	4884	111	12	AB
WB1APD	4876	106	13	B
W1UPH	3916	89	12	B
W1KK	3906	91	11	ABD
W1CJK	3560	89	10	B
K1NWE	3136	112	4	B
WB1EHS	3124	71	12	B
W1NLE	2828	101	4	B
K1MAL	2800	100	14	B
K1UR	2784	50	6	BI
N1CM	2730	105	3	B
WB1CXC	2546	66	9	BC
KB1Y	2340	90	3	B
WB1GLZ	2204	58	9	AB
KA1CRX	2132	82	3	B
WA1YYK	2072	74	4	B
WB1BPJ	2016	72	4	B
W1NY	2010	67	5	AB
(K1BE, opr.)				
WA1YW	2002	77	3	B
WB1DLE	1976	76	3	B
WB1DLH	1924	74	3	B
KA1CTM	1820	70	3	B
WA1UOL	1800	45	10	B
K1JDL	1690	65	3	B
K1GXU	1672	44	9	B
N1SR	1608	66	2	BC
W1VNE	1560	60	3	B
WB1EMN	1482	57	3	B
K1UOR	1404	54	3	B
WA1ZLQ	1372	46	4	BC
W1MDL	1344	56	2	B
K1ZQB	1326	51	3	B
WA1GVV	1144	44	3	B
KA1CYK	1008	42	2	B
KA1FVT	936	36	3	B
WA1JUU	924	33	4	B
W1RED	648	27	2	B
WA1VHU	480	20	2	B
W1UWX	352	16	1	B
W1JWV	312	13	2	B
K1IJU	264	11	2	B
K1JG	96	4	2	B
K1TK	44	2	I	B
WA1RWU	90902	927	33	ABCD
(+K1FO, K1TOL, KA1APR, KA1AVJ, N1CQ, WA1ECR, WA1UQC, WB1CAC)				
W1YK	27,486	435	17	ABCDI
(+K1OGF, K1TK, K1UR, N2AWG, WA1PQY, WA1YOJ, WA1ZLQ)				
WB1ETS	7722	174	12	ABC (+KA1DNX, N1AEH)

RESULTS, 35th ARRL VHF SWEEPSTAKES

In the multiop class, the Hampden Co. Radio Assn. team at WA1RWU smashed the old all-time multiop record set by K8III in 1979 by almost 10,000 points. Accompanying the logs was a 4-page description of the trials and tribulations this group encountered during its quest for the top. The 'RWU contest site is 2000-foot October Mountain in the northwestern corner of Massachusetts. There is no fixed operating site there, so all towers and antennas were put up in the months before the contest (remember - this is a winter contest) and most of the power came from a 5-kW generator. Sound like what your club does in June? Throughout the contest, the crew was hampered by 50-mph winds and temperatures of -30* F. Equipment failures and antenna problems, while normal for many stations, seemed worse because of the cold. The 1296 station bit the dust, followed by the 432 hardline, 432 mast-mounted preamp, 220 preamp, 6-meter scatter antenna and several rotors. Looks like they really earned that record.

QST June 1982

PAGE 83

(A=50 mHz. B=144 Mhz. C=220 Mhz. D=432 Mhz. I=10Ghz)

SKYWARN Classes for 2005

April 25th at 7PM Cabotville Industrial Park, Chicopee Center
A tour of the skywarn facility in Chicopee will also be available.

May 3 at 7PM at the Hawlemont Regonal High School,
10 School St Charlemont MA



Northern CT Weather Net

Beginning Thursday, April 7, 2005, The Northern CT Weather Net will resume a weekly schedule, at 9:PM, on the Vernon CT Repeater, 146.79 (-) PL 82.5, except for the on second Thursday of the month, when we will meet on our alternate repeater, The Soapstone repeater, 147.000 (+) no PL, at 9:PM.

73 from Roger klpai Skywarn Co-ordinator for Hartford and Tolland Counties

The Hampden County Radio Association's next meeting FRIDAY, APRIL 1st

Doors open at 7 p.m., Meeting begins at 7:30

Feeding Hills Congregational Church, Feeding Hills, MA

In case of inclement weather, check: www.hcra.org or the 146.94 repeater.

Meeting cancellation information will be given out by 6:00 PM.

Glass Magnet passes first operational test

Editor's Note: The "Glass Magnet" in the following article was shown by Dave, KB1MU, at the HCRA "Show and Tell" meeting last month.

On March 26 the Glass Magnet antenna mount was used during the Scantic Spring Splash, to provide communications from the Shuttle Bus to net control, via the MTARA 147.000 repeater. Net control was located in the event headquarters (Powder Mill Barn). It was attached to a window on the shuttle bus. Since the upper portion of the bus body was fiberglass, a normal magnet mount would not work.

Although the mount was not tested at highway speeds, it was given a "brush" test. At one point the bus was required to turn in an area with heavy brush. Even though the driver was very much concerned about scratching the finish of the bus, the Glass Magnet stayed in place. Actually the assembly was extremely stable, with no signs of instability during the entire operation. The antenna itself was only a 1/4 wave, with a very poor ground plane; communications from the bus were very reliable. The orientation of the bus relative to the repeater seemed to have no effect on operation. In the past this had been a big problem. If the bus made a turn communications could have been lost. For more information about the Glass Magnet Antenna Mount contact Dave Isham KB1MU at kb1mu@charter.net.



HCRA

P.O. Box 562

Agawam, Massachusetts

01001

PLEASE HAND CANCEL

Hampden County Radio Assoc.

CTRI

Connecticut & Rhode Island

Contest Group

DXpeditions

Friday,

April 1,

2005

Doors open at

7:PM for

Tech Corner

