

Zero Beat

Our 39th ARRL affiliated year
Special Service Club

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.

Serving Greater Springfield, MA

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

1988 VHF Sweeps

The Hampden County Radio Association will again compete as a club during the January 1988 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes. As you know, last year we did our best ever and we are looking for even better scores and a better placing this year!

The contest will take place on January 23-25, which should *not* be a football weekend. Complete rules will be found in December QST and January Zero Beat.

Now is a great time to start thinking about the contest. Although we've had some winter weather early this year there is plenty of time to get in some last minute antenna work.

If you are interested in helping with the W1NY club station effort or need help with your own station in January please see N1DPM or KA1KPH at one of the upcoming HCRA meetings.

Every point counts, so please mark your calender now for the VHF Sweeps weekend!



"Quick as a Wink" Printing & Sales Co.
573 Union St. - West Spfld. MA
(413) 736-8184
Mon. - Thurs. 8am to 4:30pm
Friday 8am to 4:00 pm

Dick Smith USA Sold

The US interests of Dick Smith Electronics, the Australian firm which marketed low-cost amateur transceivers in the US, have been sold. The buyer is American Electronics, of Greenwood, IN, who will continue the business. Address and phone number: 173 East Broadway, Greenwood, IN 46142 312.888.7265.

As many of you know, Dick Smith Electronics had a number of interesting items. Contact American Electronics for more information on the status of the DSE inventory.

1988 Callbooks

The 1988 North American and 1988 International Radio Amateur Callbooks are in, and can be picked up at the December HCRA meeting on Friday December 4th, 1987.

The North American version contains 41,649 new licenses and 110,919 changes since 1987. The DX version contains 52,823 new licenses and 82,529 changes since the 65th edition.

In addition, there are also a number of new features that may be of interest.

A limited number of books may also be available if you did not already purchase one; see Ron WB1ETS.

ARRL Books Available

By popular request, the HCRA has increased its inventory of ARRL books, including the 1988 ARRL Handbook and Third Edition of the ARRL Operating Manual.

The following books are currently in stock, and will be available for purchase at the December club meeting:

- 1988 ARRL Handbook \$18.00
- Operating Manual \$14.00
- Advanced Class License \$4.00
- Extra Class License \$4.00
- Complete DX'er \$9.00
- Tech/Gen License \$4.00
- FCC Rulebook \$4.00
- Repeater Directory \$3.00
- Tune in the World \$14.00

Remember: quantities are limited and are available on a first come first served basis. The HCRA prices reflect a membership discount of at least \$1.00 off the cover price, with \$3.00 off the price of the new hardbound 1988 Handbooks.

The HCRA wants to make sure that you have the best publications at the lowest possible price for your shack, and now we have them just in time for Christmas.

If you are unable to make it to a meeting to obtain a book, please write and we will arrange delivery!

Wanted

Motor starter for 7 1/2 hp 3 phase 240 volt motor. Please contact Ken, WB1BZH, at 413.596.8476.

Lost

N1FEZ reports that someone stole his Kenwood TM221A, serial number 8060949, on 08-Oct-87 from Holyoke. Keep your eyes open for this rig!

February Meeting

Plan to bring a potential novice with you to the February Meeting. The new film "The New World of Amateur Radio" will be shown.

There will also be informal discussions of how to get involved with amateur radio. Suggestions on the program will be welcome.

See Yorke, K1BXE

ServiceMaster

House can be ready for the holidays! Drapes cleaned in place in your home! Carpet and furniture cleaning! Call the office and mention my name. Questions? Call me at home at 413.786.7856

Jeffrey Duquette K1BE

Field Day Results

The Field Day results are in, and the HCRA came in 4th place in the 5A category with a score of 9,538. This was only 88 points (less than 1%) behind the third place K8RO! W1NY ranked 24th in all stations in the country (out of 1,706 stations participating)! NOT BAD!!!

Looking at total QSO's, W1NY came in 5th in the country with 3,738 contacts!

Congrats to all those who helped make the 1987 Field Day a success!

Plans are already under way for the 1988 event, which will again take place in conjunction with Agawam Civil Defense at the Agawam High School field. Mark down the date: June 25-26, 1988.

We will be working on various improvements, including a wire beam antenna on 80 meters, possibly a station capable of working 160m, more CW QSO's, and enhanced food offerings.

If you are interested in participating again with the HCRA W1NY Field Day group, please see KA1KPH, KA1ZE, KA1MP, N1DPM, or AC1T at any of the upcoming meetings. We will be looking for band captains to help organize a first place effort in 1988!

Jeffrey Duquette

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of Springfield
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Net Directory

Western Mass Slow Speed (traffic) net meets Monday thru Friday at 7:30 PM on 3.562 MHz

Many ARES nets meet on Sunday morning. Some are: On 3.937 MHz at 8:30 AM, on K1FFK/R 146.91 MHz and KA1KPH/R 449.175 MHz at 9:00 AM, on K1FFK/R 53.23 MHz at 9:15 AM. Please check in!

YCCC Swap Net meets at 8:00 PM Thursdays on 28.303 MHz

Western Mass Traffic Netmeets at 1 PM Monday - Friday on K1FFK 146.91 MHz

Western Mass Phone Net (SSB) meets Monday - Saturday at 6 PM on 3.937 MHz

Western Mass (CW) net meets evenings at 7:00 PM on 3.562 MHz

Ten Meter Rag Chew Net (SSB) meets Sunday at 7:00 PM local on 28.400 MHz

Please inform us of your net schedules, and we'll list them here!

ZERO BEAT is the newsletter of the Hampden County Radio Association, Inc., and is published monthly from September thru June. Contents of *ZERO BEAT* may be reprinted provided *ZERO BEAT* and the author are duly credited. Please note that some articles appearing in *ZERO BEAT* may be copyrighted; consult the author for reprint permission. Your *ZERO BEAT* editor is Bob McCormick, KA1KPH. All members are welcome to place free Wanted or For Sale adds in *ZERO BEAT*. Send your copy to the club address.

The HCRA would like to thank the following contributing editors and sources, who have brought you this month's issue: The *ARRL Letter*, KA1KPH, KA1MEW, K1BXE

**HCRA
HOLIDAY CHEER
DEC. 4, 1987
7:30 P.M.**



**A HEARTY WELCOME
TO ALL
MEMBERS, FAMILY
AND
FRIENDS**

Dates to Remember

1987

<u>1987</u>		
Dec	1-2	Yankee Vernon test
	4	HCRA meeting
	4-6	ARRL 160m contest
	6	YCCC meeting
	12	VE exam Wilbraham
	12-13	ARRL 10m contest

**Get your station
ready for the ARRL VHF
Sweepstakes in
January!**

Dates to Remember

1988

<u>1988</u>		
Jan	8	HCRA meeting
	23-25	VHF Sweeps
	29-31	CQ WW 160m CW
Feb	5	HCRA meeting
	6	YCCC meeting
	20-21	ARRL DX CW
	26-28	CQ WW 160m SSB
Mar	4	HCRA meeting
	5-6	ARRL DX SSB
	26-27	CQ WW WPX SSB
Apr	1	HCRA meeting
	9	YCCC meeting
May	6	HCRA meeting
Jun	3	HCRA meeting
	5	YCCC meeting

HCRA Meetings

First Friday of each month at
Feeding Hills Congregational Church
Center of Feeding Hills
Intersection of routes 57 & 187
Doors open at 7:30 PM
Meeting starts promptly at 8:00 PM

**Holiday Fest
December 4th, 1987
Feeding Hills
Congregational Church
Feeding Hills Center**

Future HCRA Meetings

<u>Club Meeting</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Board Meeting</u>	<u>Host</u>
4-Dec-87	Holiday Fest	none	Happy Holidays
8-Jan-88	VHF contest	12-Jan-88	WB1BZH
5-Feb-88	New World of Ham Radio	9-Feb-88	
4-Mar-88	Repeaters	8-Mar-88	
1-Apr-88	Telecommunications	5-Apr-88	
6-May-88	DX trip	10-May-88	
3-Jun-88	Annual Banquet	none	

For Sale

14 element 2m yagi on a 24 foot boom
(+1.75dB/215WB) for \$75.00

A pair of 22 element N1DPM antennas, as
described in Zero Beat, with 1/4 inch heli-ax
phasing lines and half-wave power divider,
sold only as a set, for \$100.00

A 3CX800A7 tube including: socket,
chimney, grid collet, and anode connector.
Also includes: meter set and filament
transformer; everything you need for a KW
except the labor! Asking \$325.00 for all (no
partials)

Contact Fred N1DPM 413.786.7943

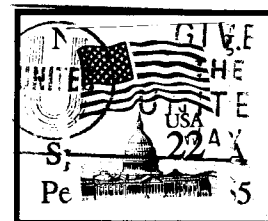
Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.

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Forwarding & Address
Correction Requested

December 1987



10/88 AC1T

