

ZEROBEAT

Hampden County Radio Association

Our 49th ARRL Affiliated Year

Issue 10

June 1996

Next HCRA Meeting

Annual Banquet and Election of Officers

Where: Feeding Hills Congregational Church

When: Friday, June 7, 1996

Social Hour: 6:30

Dinner: 7:00

The meal will be buffet style as in the past, and the annual meeting and election of officers will follow dinner. If anyone has a home brew project or a new radio they would like to tell the membership about, please bring it to the meeting. Tables will be available to display your new baby!

President's Message

50 YEARS!!! 50 YEARS!!! 50 YEARS!!!

That's how long the H.C.R.A. has been in existence! Fifty years is a yardstick few organizations attain, and along with congratulations, brings thoughts about our future. So congratulations to all of us, and thanks to all the members of the HCRA, past and present.

As to our future, well, let's take a minute or two. As with all organizations, we have had our ups and downs. Being a hobby (well for most of us anyhow!), there are priorities which take precedence. The lack of President's messages this year is a good example! However I and many others feel the club must continue for many reasons. **Continue?** Yes, continue! The past two years the club has been run by a hand full of members who have been required to do double duty. Getting speakers, running monthly meetings, working on

the flea market and planning the general workings of the club does not take much time when there is a full board and slate of officers. However, this next year sees along with the election of the executive officers, several open positions on the board of directors.

Now is the time to get involved. Remember this is your club! With a limited amount of positions filled the last few years, the board has given you programs from DXing to 3DTV. Just imagine what we could produce with **your** input! A board term is for two years and requires a minimum of actual work, mostly helping set up at the monthly meetings. The rest is helping with your input at the board meetings, and helping find a speaker. In fact for this up coming year, I've already given you a head start by confirming speakers up to our December Social. Show your pride in HCRA and volunteer for a board position.

Show us something you have built or a tip for better operating at a Tech Corner. You brag to all your buddies and friends so why not be famous and tell the HCRA! No reason to be nervous and embarrassed, you probably will have five or six hams listening over your shoulder anyhow. It's no different then Show and Tell at our December Social.

What this all comes down to, is that we have a great club with even greater members. Help insure a time, place and event for our monthly gathering, and continued entertainment and socialization.

Get involved and bring a friend!

See you on the 7th!

73, Barry, N1IJK

Proposed 96/97 Slate of Officers

President : Barry Mason, N1IJK
Vice President: Open
Treasurer: Greg Stoddard, N1AEH
Secretary: Jim Sebolt:, N1DUY

Board of Directors:

For one year (not to be elected)

Dan McKay, N1RAL
Don Lynch, KA1YZV
Open
Open

For two year terms: (to be elected)

Steve Nelson, WA1EYF
Frank Potts, NC1I
John Balboni, AC1T
Stan Hillinski, KA1ZE

Vox Pop

(Dedicated to newsworthy items hopefully without insulting anyone.)

Congrats to Lisa, N1JOF for being the recipient of a New England FEMARA Scholarship ***** Word has it that the Radio Police are after Larry N1EPE. It seems he has not been active enough!! N1EPE where are you???! ***** Ned NB1R has returned from a vacation in Texas. Maybe he can tell us if the antennas and radios really ARE bigger down yonder! ***** John N1QXV has taken a job in Texas - Best wishes from the HCRA members! ***** Don KA1YZV is a county hunter, and quite good at it I might add. Don - maybe a few words for Zerobeat on how that works! ***** Steve WA1EYF said that the Peach Festival Parade is coming up soon and he will need volunteers with HTs - More info to follow! ***** Frank, NC1I broke the family

microwave - in desperation, Frank's XYL placed the leftovers in front of his antenna and asked him to call CQ. Needless to say it was a little overdone - next time only call CQ once!!!! ***** Congrats to Jeff, N1KBY on his new job as station engineer at WTIC Radio - we all now have tower and power envy ***** Last year Barry, N1IJK won a mixer at the Eastern VHF/UHF Conference but he found that it makes lousy drinks - better luck this year! *****

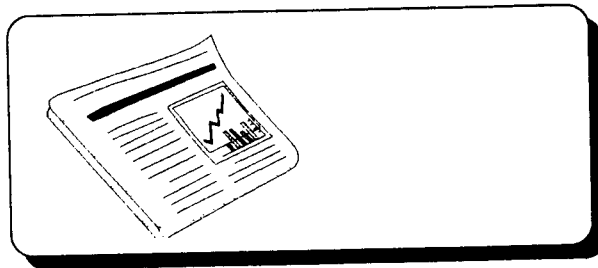
Editor's Message.....

Notice something strange!!!! WA1EYF is the acting editor! Bet in your lifetime you would never see that! Well Zerobeat needs an editor, and I think there is someone out there that would do just fine with all the input from the board and the members. (I don't intend to do this job for very long.)

I will establish the format and the columns and make the connections. All you have to do is create the newspaper with the input from us. I would like to see a DX column, a VHF/UHF column, a Swap and Sell column, a VOX POP column (nice little tidbits about the HCRA members) and a computer column. Just trying to touch all the bases the ham radio reaches.

While I'm on the subject of participation, I'd like to make a request. I would challenge every HCRA member to do one thing for the club each year (even more than one if you are so inclined). For your trouble we will have something special that you can wear with pride!

Steve WA1EYF (596-8216)



DXing Today.....

How's DX.....one word from those of us who remember 6 years ago..... lousy. I can recall when 10 meters was so crowded you had to ask if the frequency is in use. But those of us who bother to turn on the HF rig can find something out there.

How about some help... Would you like to write something for this column?

Don't Forget.....

June VHF QSO Party, June 8-10 (See May QST)

Field Day, June 22-23 (See May QST)

Eastern VHF/UHF Conference, August 23, 24, 25, Quality Inn, Vernon Ct.
See the enclosed form.

1996 ARRL UHF Contest, August 3 - 4. From 222 on up the spectrum. See page 108 of the June 1996 QST.

VHF/UHF Newsnotes

The results of the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes are in with many HCRA members participating. Unfortunately, this year, there was no organized club score for us.

Word has it that the bands were fairly flat but that there were a reasonable amount of long distance contacts.

Frank, NC1I appeared in the top 10 on the 432 band with Fred, N1DPM handily taking Western Mass.

Do you have an HT covering 70 cm (450 Mhz) and a dual band mobile antenna? Why not try the UHF contest from a mountain top?

PC Bits & Bytes

This is a column dedicated to those hams who like their ham radio with a little bit of personal computing mixed in. We can talk about new software for ham radio or Packet Radio, AMTOR or anything you wish.

As most of you know, BBSWMA, WINY and WINY-1 are off the air. We have attempted to find a home for the node and BBS but at the moment we have not had much success. I will be attempting to obtain a 386 DX-20 PC to run the board but we still need some work on the equipment and a place to operate it.

If you are interested in operating the node and the board, please give me a call. You do not have to know anything about Packet Radio - we will do all the training. Look at it this way - you can connect to the board with only an HT on low power. Who could ask for anything more.

Steve WA1EYF
596-8216

FOR SALE OR SWAP

Nothing this month.....but contact Steve WA1EYF (596-8216) with your sale or swap items!

Would you like.....

to write a column for Zerobeat. Let me interview you on the phone instead of having you sit down and write it!

to volunteer to help at one event! See Barry, N1IJK at the next meeting.

Any Zerobeat original article may be reprinted as long as credit is given to this publication and the author. 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73

HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 562
Agawam, MA 01001-0562

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION FOR ELECTION TO OFFICE

1 _____
name callsign

Hereby place my name in nomination for election to the office indicated below:
(Circle one candidate office below)

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Secretary/Clerk

Director (2 year term)

I certify that I am now, and will maintain my status as , a current regular member, and if elected, will uphold the duties of the office and the standards of the HCRA.

sign here date

Return this form, when completed, to the Secretary/Clerk.

If you are interested in running for a position, we strongly recommend it this year! This would be a great opportunity for you to participate and help turn this club into one of the best around. Mail this form immediately to Jim Sebolt, N1DUY at the club's PO box. Nominations will also be taken from the floor. Please don't be influenced by the fact that the elected positions have nominations. Multiple nominations are good for the club. I would be happy to give up my board spot for some new blood! Who knows, I might even become editor!!!

Steve WA1EYF

22ND EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE

AUGUST 23, 24, & 25, 1996
QUALITY INN AND CONFERENCE CENTER
51 HARTFORD TURNPIKE (RT.83)
VERNON, CT 06066

8/23/96 FRIDAY	LODGING
1600 'til	HOSPITALITY ROOM
8/24/96 SATURDAY	REGISTRATION, FORMAL TALKS, VHF-SHF BANDSESSIONS & MUCH MORE.
0800	REGISTRATION BEGINS ADJACENT TO HOSPITALITY ROOM
0840	TALKS BEGIN
1200 - 1300	LUNCH
1300	TALKS RESUME
1630 - 1830	NOISE FIGURE MEASUREMENT WORKSHOP 50 MHz-10 GHz.
1900	BANQUET (7 PM - 8:30 PM)
2030	VHF - MICROWAVE TRIVIA QUIZ
2100	DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS EXTRAVAGANZA
8/25/96 SUNDAY	
0800	VHF-UHF SWAP 'n' SELL & ANTENNA GAIN MEASURING 222 & up

FROM SOUTH/WEST, I-84 E TO EXIT 63, LEFT OFF RAMP, ABOUT 1 MILE ON LEFT.
FROM BOSTON, I-84 W TO EXIT 64, RIGHT ONTO RT. 83, ABOUT 1/2 MILE ON RIGHT
Please notify us in advance if you plan to arrive via nearby Bradley International Airport so we can arrange to pick you up.

EACH REGULAR REGISTRANT RECEIVES A COPY OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE DRAWINGS.
ALTERNATIVE DINING IS AVAILABLE NEAR-BY.
OVERNIGHT RATES, MENTION EASTERN VHF/UHF SOCIETY, CALL LORI TORIZER AT (800)-235-4667.

Please fill out & return with payment

Name & Call: _____

Street: _____

Town, State, Zip _____

REGULAR MAIL REGISTRATIONS	_____ @ \$20 = _____	REGISTRATION AT DOOR \$25
SUNDAY ONLY REGISTRATIONS	_____ @ \$5 = _____	
EXTRA PROCEEDINGS BOOKS	_____ @ \$12 = _____	
BANQUET TICKETS (by mail only)		
PRIME RIB	_____ @ \$23 = _____	
STUFFED SHRIMP	_____ @ \$23 = _____	
CHICKEN CAPON*	_____ @ \$19 = _____	
	TOTAL = _____	*(scrod, vegetable lasagna available as sub - ask server)

Make check or m.o. payable to Eastern VHF/UHF Society

Mail to :RAE BRISTOL, K1LXD
328 MARK DRIVE
COVENTRY, CT 06238
860-742-8650

SWAP n Sell INFO:
MARK CASEY, N1LZC
303 MAIN ST.
HAMPDEN, MA 01036
413-566-2445

June Meeting

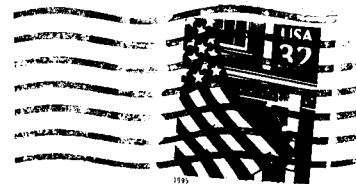
Annual meeting/Election of Officers

June 7, 1996, 6:30 pm, Feeding Hills Congratonal Church

Food - Food - Food - Food

Editor: Steve Nelson, WA1EYF

**Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 562
Agawam, MA 01001-0562**



Forwarding and Address correction requested

RC1T E V C A 14 I 08/96

