

Zero Beat

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.

Our 41st ARRL affiliated year
Special Service Club

Serving Greater Springfield, MA

The February meeting will feature a video presentation by John, **AC1T** of the June 1988 HCRA Field Day activities. The Field Day location was at Agawam High School on June 25th and 26th. All bands were worked from 160 meters to 6 meters. Included were 10 meter Novice and 6 meter Technician. A packet station was also operational. If you were there come and see yourself as you really appeared, if not come and see how your friends looked. After the video we'll have a brief discussion on what and how Field Day should be handled this year.

Send in your scores!

Did you make contacts in the VHF Sweepstakes contest? Don't forget to submit your log to the ARRL! It's easy to do. Fill out a contest score sheet (one was included in last month's Zero Beat), and send it along with your log to the ARRL by February 16th. If you worked more than 200 stations, you must also include a dupe sheet with your entry.

Your log must include the date and time in UTC of the contact, the call worked, and the exchange (grid square). You should also clearly mark each new grid the first time it was worked.

The score sheet might look complicated to fill out, but it's really not. Simply enter the number of QSO's and grids you worked on each band. Multiply the number of QSO's by the band points for that band (printed on the score sheet) and then multiply the QSO points by the number of grid squares for each band, to give you the band score. Add the

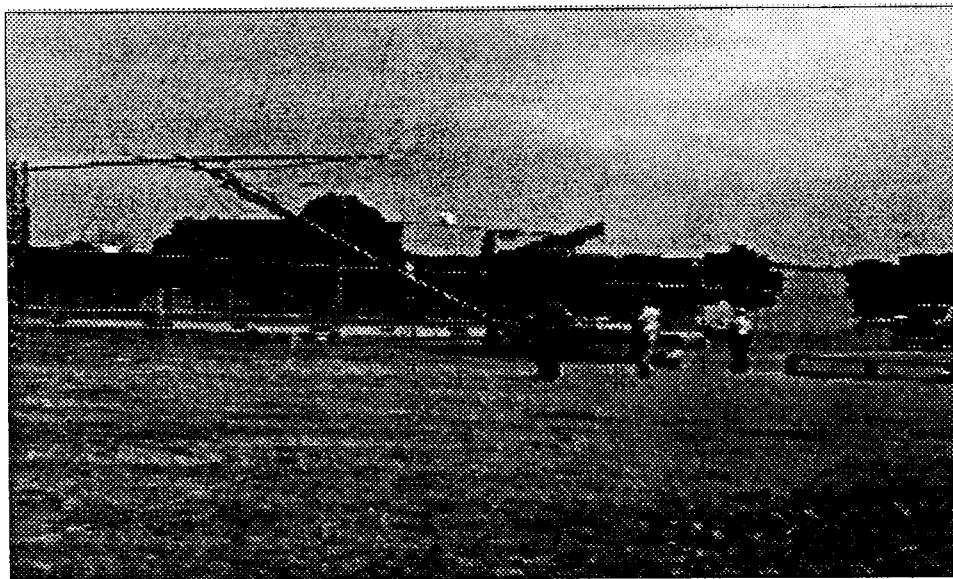
QSO's for each band, and put that number at the bottom of the column. Do the same for the QSO points and the number of grids worked. Finally, multiply the total QSO points by the total grids, and this will give you your final score.

Don't forget to make sure that your score sheet says "Hampden County Radio Association" on it.

This will make sure that your score is also counted towards the club score. Every contact helps, so even if you made only a few contacts, don't be afraid to send your score sheet in!

If you need help filling out your score sheet, bring your log to the meeting and we'll be glad to give you a hand!

Good luck!



"How fast did it fall?" Sometimes taking down Field Day equipment can be as exciting as field day itself!

Club Officers

President—Phil Smith, **KA1MP**
Vice President—Dave Bertagnolli, **N1EUZ**
Treasurer—Greg Stoddard, **N1AEH**
Secretary/Clerk—Jeanette Platanitis, **KA1MEW**

Board of Directors

Jim Sebolt, **N1DUY**
Ken Nickolls, **WB1BZH**
Steve Nelson, **WA1EYF**
Cliff Junkins, **W1UWX**
Ed Goldberg, **WA1PLS**
Yorke Phillips, **K1BXE**
Stan Hilinski, **KA1ZE**
Bob Lafleur, **NQ1C**

Novice Classes

The HCRA is again sponsoring novice classes on Tuesday nights, 7:00 PM, at the Agawam High school. Jack, **WA1YYK** has 28 students this time, some of whom signed up at our "Ham Radio Weekend" at the Springfield Science Museum last November. If you have some particular interest in Amateur Radio that you would like to demonstrate to prospective novices, contact Jack to arrange a demonstration.

Yorke, **K1BXE**, is also starting an Amateur Radio club at Minnechaug High School. His club meets on Thursdays between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM. If you'd like to demonstrate our hobby to some high school students, contact Yorke. He'd love to have your help!

Code Lab

There will be a pilot code program sponsored by the HCRA. Speeds of 13wpm and 20wpm will be offered to prepare for code exams. The program will begin Monday, January 23, at 7:00pm. Location will be at the Agawam High School, Rt 57, Agawam MA. For further info call 786-1463. Class will be limited to ten participants.

TCP/IP

Hello All,

Step into the world of TCP/IP! "What is that?", you ask. Well, basically it is the Internet protocol,

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the same protocol that is used by many of the big computer networks. I won't go into an involved technical explanation here, but I will tell you that it is fun! As more stations get involved, things will get better and better.

With TCP/IP, you can transfer ascii or binary files, chat with other stations and move mail through the IP network. As an added bonus, the software also allows conventional AX.25 capabilities,



*Bob, **KA1KPH**, uses the manual method of tracking a threatening storm at the **W1NY** Field Day site.*

and all this simultaneously!

Give it a try. All you need is an IBM or compatible computer, a TNC equipped with the KISS protocol (the pk-232 and some others have it) and, of course, the software, which is available from many sources, including the **WB3FFV** telephone BBS at (301)335-1955.

Try it, you'll like it! 73 de **KB2BRA @ WB2COY**

MTARA Flea Market

The 1989 MTARA Flea Market will be held March 5, 1989 at the Smith Vocational High School, Northampton, MA. The new location allows easy entrance and exit, no stairs, and handicapped parking. Volunteers are needed to help vendors unload. Food will be available, and there will be a raffle, door prizes, and VEC exams.

Get your reservations in early!

Contact Bob, **WB1EQS**, days at (413) 532-6411, or Mickey, **N1CDR**, after 6:00pm at (413) 562-1027.

Don't miss out—Be there!

Book Collection

The club is collecting Amateur Radio related books to donate to school radio clubs. If you have callbooks, antenna books, handbooks, repeater directories, or any other books that you are not using anymore, bring them to the meeting and the club will give them to someone who can use them! Currently we are planning to donate

books to a radio club/school in the Soviet Union, and to the Minnechaug High School radio club.

If you know of a club that could use some books, the board of directors would be happy to consider them as recipients of books. Contact Janette, **KA1MEW** for more information.

February, 1989

Digital Social Director

Yorke, **K1BXE**, has been appointed the club's "Digital Social Director". Basically this fancy title means that Yorke will update the **WINY-2** PBBS with information pertaining to club activities. The bulletins will be in the "information" directory, on the PBBS. To see what bulletins are available, use the "WI" command. You may use the "DI" command to display a bulletin. For example, "DI MEETING.FEB" would display the meeting information for February.

If you're looking for information on club activities, the **WINY-2** PBBS is the best place to look!

Tower Available

If you need a tower, there is one available. It is a HIGH GAIN Model HG 70 Heavy Duty complete with crank up mechanism. Thus it can be lowered to ground level. Call (508) 464 2060, Dick, **K3CJN** in Dracut MA.

VCR Raffle

The HCRA is sponsoring a raffle to support it's PBBS efforts. The prize is a VHS VCR, to be given away at the June meeting. Chances are \$2 each, or 3 for \$5, and will be available at all the meetings through June. You don't need to be present at the June meeting to win. The VCR will also be on display at the February meeting—It will be used to show the Field Day video. Help support the packet PBBS, and maybe win a VCR, too!

Club Calendar

February	HCRA/West Exam Field Day Film Board Meeting	February 1 February 3 February 7
March	HCRA/West Exam < Suggestions Wanted > Board Meeting	March 1 March 3 March 7
April	HCRA/West Exam Sky Warn Board Meeting	April 5 April 7 April 11
May	HCRA/West Exam DX Board Meeting	May 3 May 5 May 9
June	Banquet HCRA/West Exam < No Board Meeting > Field Day	June 2 June 7 June 24-25

HCRA meeting are held at Feeding Hills Congregational Church at 8:00 PM.

Contact Phil Smith, **KA1MP** (413) 562-4731

HCRA/West Exams are held at Agawam High at 7:00 PM *sharp*.

Contact Jeanette Platanitis, **KA1MEW** (413) 786-1463

HCRA/East Exams are held at Minnechaug Regional High School, Wilbraham MA.

Contact Yorke Phillips, **K1BXE** (413) 566-3010

Local Nets

10 Meter Ragchew Net	Sunday 7:00 PM 28.400
Nutmeg VHF Traffic Net	Daily 9:30 PM 146.28/88
80 Meter Ragchew Net	Tuesday 8:00 PM 3.709 Mhz
WMPN	Daily 6:00 PM 3.937
WMSN	Tuesday & Thursday 7:30 PM 3.713
WMCWN	Daily 7:00 PM 3.562
WMTN	Monday-Friday 1:00 PM 146.31/91
CPN	Monday-Saturday 6:00 PM 3.965
	Sunday 10:00 AM 3.965
Mt. Tom Information Net	Wednesday 7:30 PM 146.34/94
Mt. Tom Swap Net	Follows Mt. Tom Information Net
Mt. Tom Emergency Net	Sunday 8:45 AM 146.34/94
RASON	Daily 9:00 PM 146.13/73
WESCON	Daily 8:30 PM 147.78/18
CN	Daily 7:00 & 10:00 PM 3.640
CSN	Monday-Friday 7:30 PM 3.720
CSTN	KY1T PBBS, 145.01 Mhz



It takes a little concentration to get every last contact, and Shawn, **NC1B** is determined to get them all.

Your story could have been here if you had submitted it for publication. Maybe next time?

*Submit your story via packet to **NQ1C @ WINY**, or mail it in.*

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P O Box 482
West Springfield MA 01090-0482
Editor: Bob Lafleur, NQ1C

Forwarding & Address
Correction Requested

MAILED ON

JAN 30 1989

10/89 AC1T



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

New Members

We would like to welcome several new members to the HCRA.

George Andersen **NC1Z**
Chris Erickson **KA1DTR**
Jack Kesler **WD8QYU.**



Stan, **KA1ZE**, even took time to come down from the towers and operate!

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