

Zero Beat

Hampden County Radio Association

Our 40th ARRL affiliated year
Special Service Club

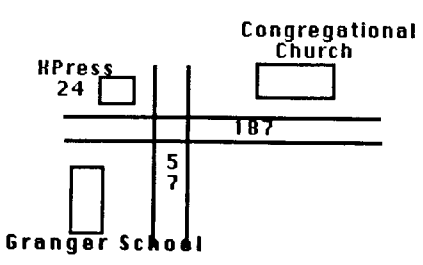
Springfield, MA

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the yearly auction, and will be held at the Granger School. You may bring items to be auctioned off, or you may just come to bid, but please join us for this event. Remember, one man's junk is another man's treasure!

The doors open at 6:00, and the auction starts at 7:30 PM.

Auction Rules: The HCRA takes 10% off the final selling price. No minimums allowed but you may bid on your own items and if the owner is the highest bidder the HCRA will waive the 10%. The auctioneer has the right to combine items in the interest of time. The decision of the auctioneer is final.



Ham Weekend

On November 5 & 6th, a Saturday and Sunday, the Springfield Science Museum will be holding an Amateur Radio demonstration. The club is planning to demonstrate as many aspects of the hobby as possible. HF, VHF/UHF, ATV and NTS traffic will be among the exhibits. Also, there will be a sign up available for Novice classes.

Preparations for this event are already underway, but the more help we have, the better we will be able to demonstrate our hobby. NTS traffic is going to be taken at the museum, and handling it all is going to be a trick. If you would like to help, either by operating, handling traffic, or talking with the public about our hobby, contact Dave, **N1EUZ**. This will be a great opportunity to spread the word about Amateur Radio.



K1CE Off The Air

The Connecticut Section Traffic Node PBBS, **K1CE** is now off the air, with no plans to put it back in operation. If you have been trying

W1NY-2 Moving

The club's packet BBS station **W1NY-2** is going to be moved to Dave, **N1EUZ**'s home sometime during the month of November. Dave lives in Feeding Hills, and it should be easier for many of us to hit **W1NY-2** directly without the need of a digipeater. You will still be able to access **W1NY-2** via **W1NY-1**, if you cannot access it directly.

The BBS will also be going through some software revisions within the next month or so. This should be happening before it gets moved to Dave's house. You will still use the BBS in the same way that you do now, although there may be some new added features. Information will be available on the BBS about any new features available due to the software upgrade.



to access **K1CE** and haven't been able to, this is why. **W1AW-4** will act as the CSTN until other arrangements have been made.

Amateur "Hi"

I was mobile one time when a call for directions came on my 2M, wanting to know how to get to his motel a few towns over. After telling me where he was, I started to give directions like this: Keep going the same way you are, travelling at 50 mph. You should be seeing a school on your left about now. He came back and told me I was right on.

After some small talk, I told him he would be turning right at the major intersection he was approaching and to continue past a shopping

mall. When he came around to tell me he was passing the mall, I came back saying, "You must be going faster than 50 mph, because you shouldn't have reached it yet, but turn onto 90 West."

Sure enough, he told me he was doing about 55 mph and couldn't get over my accuracy.

Directions continued like this all the way till I followed him into the parking lot. This is when I pulled in next to him and told him that I had been following him the entire way.

Taken from "World Radio". Submitted by Gary Gargus, N8DIU.

Recent Upgrades

The Hampden County Radio Association has been conducting VE exams for some time now. We would like to acknowledge the following people, who have successfully passed exams in the past several months.

Novice

Stephen Simpson (9 years old)

Tech

Richard Smith, **KA1SON**
Francis Miele, **KA1SMA**
Kevin Miele, **KA1SOZ**
Robert Desaulnier, **WB1HIQ**
Carol Ponticelli
Raymond Ponticelli

General

Daniel Clark, **W1EVH**

Club Calendar

| | | |
|---------------|--|--|
| November | HCRA/West Exam Auction Board Meeting | November 2 November 4 - Granger School November 8 |
| December | Holiday Fest HCRA/West Exam HCRA/East < No Board Meeting > | December 2 December 7 December 10 |
| January, 1989 | HCRA/West Exam VHF Contest Board Meeting | January 4 January 6 January 10 |
| 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

New Look

You may have noticed several changes in the look of the newsletter. The editor has been experimenting with several features of the computerized system used to create the newsletter. Look for more changes in the future! Any comments are welcome regarding the newsletter. Contact Bob Lafleur, **NQ1C**. (413) 737-8503. Your input is welcome!

For Sale

ICOM 2AT and 4AT with extra batteries. Mint condition. Must sell both, best offer. Don, **WB1BZG**. 567-1033 Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Boxboro

The Boxboro hamfest turned out to be a big event this year. The weather turned out to be nice, and despite the hefty \$7 admission fee, the crowds turned out in large numbers.

Inside, manufacturers displayed their current lines of gear. The dealers were selling equipment like hotcakes. Computers seemed to be one of the big attractions this year, with many dealers offering bargains on IBM "clones" and accessories. The place was crowded, and it was hard to get a good look at some of the new equipment. There was a big crowd around Kenwood's new 100Khz to 900Mhz receiver.

Outside, the flea market was going full swing, with people set up outside, and in the parking lot. Everybody seemed to be having a good time finding treasures in someone else's junk.

Conference rooms were being used to hold meetings of all different interests. The YCCC meeting was so crowded, that they couldn't fit everyone into the room. And a major part of the FCC's forum was a discussion on the land mobile allocation of 220-222 Mhz.

And throughout the whole affair, there was a good showing of faces from Western Mass. and Northern Connecticut. It's good to see a good showing of hams from our area, despite the distance!

P40V World Record

A group of 17 contest veterans led by **AI6V** will attempt to break the world record this year in the CQ worldwide DX contest. They will be on expedition to Aruba (a new separate country), formerly part of the Netherlands Antilles, and will use the call **P40V** for the October 29-30, 48-hour event. As incentive for amateurs to work them, **P40V** is offering a free handsome certificate to those who work them on at least four bands! They will be active all bands 160 - 10 simultaneously and listening especially for those who are trying to earn the certificate. The certificates will automatically be sent out in November 1988 to winners.

The group has also promised to QSL every contact immediately after the event. To break the current world record, the **P40V** team must work at least 18,000 QSO's! That's a lot of contacts and you will be an important part of the record attempt.

432Mhz Rig

Are you interested in getting involved with UHF communications? Have you been looking for a good deal on a 70cm sideband (432 Mhz) rig? Well, here's your chance!

Fred, N1DPM, and Stan, KA1ZE have a Microwave Module 10 meter to 432 Mhz transverter, with 10 watts output, and an 18 element K2RIW antenna. They are offering the equipment at a very reasonable "price". The station many keep the equipment as long as they like, as long as they promise to run it in the January sweepstakes every year.

This is a great chance to get on 432 Mhz with very little investment. Fred can be reached at (413) 786-7943 and Stan can be reached at (203) 872-6197. Both are also usually available on the **ACIT** repeater, 449.275.

Novice Classes

Novice classes are being held at Agawam High School on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM. The classes began on October 11, but you may still join the classes at this time. Books (i.e. "Tune In the World") will be available if needed. For more information, contact Jack, **WA1YYK**

Tubes Wanted

Sean, **N1FEN**, is looking for some new tubes for his radio. Sean needs tw 6HF5 power aplifier tubes, and one 6GK6 PA drive tube. Sean can be reached at (203) 521-4850.



For Sale

Cushcraft 214 2 meter beam. Tuned for high end (FM portion) of 2 meters. Contact Jack, **KA1KRJ** (413) 786-1463.



Time to Renew?

Now is the time to check the items in your wallet for expiration. Check your driver's licence, credit cards, library card, and of course, your ham licence! If your ham licence is going to expire, you need to file a form 610 with the FCC.

SET Weekend

SET Weekend took place on October 14 and 15. Many nets ran extra sessions, and many "test" messages were passed. The traffic load was heavier than usual, but the traffic flowed smoothly. Congratulations to all that were involved!

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

Local Nets

10 Meter Ragchew Net
Nutmeg VHF Traffic Net
80 Meter Ragchew Net
WMPN
WMCWN
WMTN
CPN

Mt. Tom Information Net
Mt. Tom Emergency Net
RASON
WESCON
CN
CSN
CSTN

Sunday 7:00 PM 28.400
Daily 9:30 PM 146.28/88
Tuesday 8:00 PM 3.709 Mhz
Daily 6:00 PM 3.937
Daily 7:00 PM 3.562
Monday-Friday 1:00 PM 146.31/91
Monday-Saturday 6:00 PM 3.965
Sunday 10:00 AM 3.965
Wednesday 7:30 PM 146.34/94
Sunday 8:45 AM 146.34/94
Daily 9:00 PM 146.13/73
Daily 8:30 PM 147.78/18
Daily 7:00 & 10:00 PM 3.640
Monday-Friday 7:30 PM 3.720
24 hours PBBS K1CE 145.01

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.

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Editor: Bob Lafleur, NQ1C

Forwarding & Address

Correction Requested

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10/88 AC1T



*If your call is blue,
your dues are due!*