

# Zero Beat

Our 40<sup>th</sup> ARRL affiliated year  
Special Service Club

Hampden County Radio Association

Springfield, MA

## Next Meeting

On July 22 at 1500 UTC, Oscar 13 was launched. It was turned on for users during orbit 80. The October meeting will be a discussion of satellites in general, and Oscar 13 in particular. This satellite is the easiest to work, and offers a multitude of new technology. Come to the meeting and hear the latest scoop on Oscar 13!



## Ham Radio Weekend

On November 5th & 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 signup available for Novice classes. If you would like to help, either by operating, or talking with the public about our hobby, contact Dave, NIEUZ. This will be a great opportunity to spread the word about Amateur Radio.



## Colvins 50th

Condensed from World Radio

Mr. and Mrs. DX celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Naturally, it was done in the presence of a large gathering of Amateur Radio operators. Guests found food and drink. Also, the world's largest QSL card collection. If, over the past sixty years, you've never worked a Colvin, your rig must have been in the pawnshop. Lloyd and Iris (when you say Lloyd and Iris calls and last names seem superfluous for there is no other Lloyd and Iris that they could be confused with) have made well over 1 million QSO's.

How impressive is that? Well, since they have about one hundred years of Amateur license between them, that's averaging well over ten thousand QSO's a year.

The really awesome fact about their stunning statistics is that the vast majority of those contacts were made from overseas. In what they have accomplished there is no one in second place or even third place.

They have worked DXCC from well over one hundred countries. Right, over one hundred countries contacted from each of one hundred plus countries they have used as base of operations. In total, they've operated from 140 countries. It would be possible to apply for your own DXCC award by just submitting cards of Colvin contacts.

They have received over a half million QSL cards and keep them neatly filed in metal file drawers; It's almost a ritual that visitors to their Richmond CA home delve into the files to find their own cards.

This combined 100 years of marriage and DXing all resulted from a blind date while both were attending the University of California at Berkeley.

Operating as they have done is a feat in itself. But just try and imagine all the planning and effort it has taken.

They have had their share of "only one flight a week to there" and the plane looks like a rubber band is keeping it in the air. You are in your comfortable shack working them. They are in a country on the

equator where air conditioning is something the people see in ads when a year old copy of Life magazine is passed around.

When some Amateurs travel, they are concerned weather they get first or second seating on the luxury cruise line. The Colvins are just hoping the food has been cooked.

Some get their excitement shoot-'em-ups on TV; For the Colvins it's real bullets down the main street. "Well, dear—we timed it just right. Sure didn't want to miss this month's coup."

Next time we jot one of their calls into the logbook an extra tad of appreciation to W 6 King George (Lloyd) and W 6 Queen Lady (Iris) contact may be in order.

## Club Call Available

Have you ever worked W1NY in a contest? Would you like to be W1NY in a contest? Well, it is possible! The Hampden County Radio Association club call, W1NY, is available to all licensed Hams. You may use the call to operate as W1NY from your own home, or a location of your choice. The club will even provide the QSL cards, although you must provide your own postage. Prior approval is required from the Board of Directors. If you have a particular event you would like to operate as W1NY, it is suggested that you apply as soon as possible to reserve the call. Only one station may operate as W1NY at any given time. Contact Phil Smith, KA1MP, for more information, or for an application.

## Shuttle

Joe, WA1OCK, will be rebroadcasting shuttle communications on 146.595Mhz while the shuttle is in operation. Joe is looking for control stations to help with operations. Joe will handle all the technical aspects of the rebroadcast. The control station must be present on frequency during the transmission, but does not have to be at the site. (i.e., you can do this from your own house). Contact Joe if you would like to help out. Joe may be reached on the KA1KPH (449.175) repeater or on the 223.94 and 224.78 repeaters.

## Tidbits

from World Radio

A crash from the Ham shack startled everyone in the living room. "Honey!", cried the wife. "What on Earth are you doing in there?". "Nothing, now.", came a weak reply, "It's done."

An Amateur Radio operator in West Virginia worked a Cambodia station in 1971. He finally received his QSL this year, 16 years later.

## 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
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 Emergency Net	Sunday 8:45 AM 146.34/94

**For sale: Kenwood TS520SE transceiver with 500 Hz CW filter installed. Instruction manual, and Heathkit electronic keyer. Please call Bob Vanderscoff, NQ1E. 16 Francis Avenue, Enfield, CT 06082. Tel: (203) 745-6459.**

## HCRA Club Calendar

October	HCRA/West Exam <b>Oscar</b> Board Meeting	October 5 <b>October 7</b> October 13
November	HCRA/West Exam <b>Auction</b> Board Meeting	November 2 <b>November 4 - Granger School</b> November 8
December	<b>Holiday Fest</b> HCRA/West Exam HCRA/East Exam < No Board Meeting >	<b>December 2</b> December 7 December 10
January, 1989	HCRA/West Exam <b>VHF Contest</b> Board Meeting	January 4 <b>January 6</b> January 10
February	HCRA/West Exam <b>Field Day Film</b> Board Meeting	February 1 <b>February 3</b> February 7
March	HCRA/West Exam < <b>Suggestions Wanted</b> > Board Meeting	March 1 <b>March 3</b> March 7
April	HCRA/West Exam <b>Sky Warn</b> Board Meeting	April 5 <b>April 7</b> April 11
May	HCRA/West Exam <b>DX</b> Board Meeting	May 3 <b>May 5</b> May 9
June	<b>Banquet</b> HCRA/West Exam < No Board Meeting > Field Day	<b>June 2</b> June 7  June 24-25

HCRA meetings 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

## Better Late Than...

Breakfast was almost ready, but I fired up the 2 meter rig anyway to call Sid Evans, N4IIC, to get a bit of information that I needed. I waited about a minute for a reply, but got none. By that time, the chow call was received and I left the operating position with the radio still on.

Two or three minutes later, I heard Sid calling me and I rushed back to answer him, remarking about the lag time between call and answer. He explained that the reason for this was that he didn't have his 2 meter rig on, and had heard me on 15 meters. Now, Sid lives about 10 miles from me and this sounded very unlikely, until he told me he had been listening to W4RGN talking on 15, who also had his 2 meter rig on when I called. My voice was picked up by his mic and retransmitted over the 15 meter frequency.

I don't have a clue as to how I should log this one, so I won't say anything if you don't. (This incident was furnished by Jack Main, W4YCZ of Norfolk VA. Taken from World Radio)

### Amateur "Hi"

I copy the CW ARRL bulletins every day. They send "QST DE W1AW" for about 3 repeats, then send the bulletins. One day they were sending the "QST DE W1AW" for about 45 minutes, so I wrote them and asked what happened. The W1AW operator said he had stepped outside for a moment *the door blew shut!!*

He finally got into the shack and shut down the machine that sends "QST DE W1AW". It was rather embarrassing for him, but very funny to me. Stan Allen, W2CZS sent this in, perhaps some of you remember this incident. - *World Radio*

## Callbooks

The club will be taking orders for the 1989 callbooks at the October meeting. The price for the North American edition is \$26.00, and the club will be making them available for \$24.00. The price for the international edition is \$29.00, and the club will have them for \$26.00. Payment is due when you place your order, and the callbooks will be available at the December meeting.

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## October Meeting

# Oscar 13

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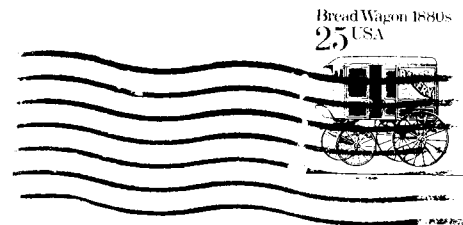
Did you know that Hiram Percy Maxim was the youngest to graduate from MIT at age 16?

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 482  
West Springfield, MA 01090-0482

Editor: Bob Lafleur, NQ1C  
Forwarding & Address  
Correction Requested

October, 1988

10/88 AC1T  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



# Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.

P O Box 482  
West Springfield, MA  
01090-0482

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## *Application for Membership*

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    )    -    Listed: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

License:

Studying \_\_\_ Novice \_\_\_ Technician \_\_\_ General \_\_\_ Advanced \_\_\_ Extra \_\_\_

ARRL: Life Member \_\_\_ Member \_\_\_

VE: Advanced \_\_\_ Extra \_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

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Regular HCRA Membership is \$9.00. Additional family members residing at the same mailing address are FREE – no additional charge (please fill out reverse side for each family member. If you are under 18 years of age, dues are only \$5.00. Please consider including a donation to help support the club's future projects. All donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

Membership Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Donation            \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Enclosed    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail this form and a check made payable to HCRA, Inc. to:  
HCRA, PO Box 482, West Springfield, MA 01090-0482  
or bring to any club meeting.

Please list additional family members here.  
Family members must reside at the same mailing address.

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Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

License: Studying\_\_\_ Novice\_\_\_ Technician\_\_\_ General\_\_\_ Advanced\_\_\_ Extra\_\_\_

ARRL: Life Member\_\_\_ Member\_\_\_

VE: Advanced\_\_\_ Extra\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

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