



ZERO BEAT

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Meeting Notice

The meeting room at the Holyoke Hospital is still on hold at this time. Until this changes, meetings will continue to be held on Zoom. Meeting links are in each month's "From the Presidents Shack"

Welcome New Members

If you know of anyone who would like to become a HCRA member, please use the link below to join us!
<http://www.hcra.org>

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Our 73rd Year as a Club!

January 2022

From the editor,

It's hard to believe but yet another year has come and gone while the most recent Powerball drawing has not been hit yet! Imagine all the radios one could buy if a ham hit that jackpot! I'm not a greedy person, I would share it with someone.

This month there is lots to read thanks to Bill, W1FMX who has been a major help in making Zero Beat what it is today. Charlie, KC1IKA needs help from somebody who wants to become a NCS, Net page 13 for more on that.

I'm trying out a new feature, as hams, we love nothing better than to show off our ham shacks and radio's so beginning this month we have "Show Us Your Shack"! In January we have the shack of Pete, W1RM. Want to see your shack in Zero Beat? Just send in a few photo's and a brief description of your shack to kd1ku@arrl.org.

Paul, NF1G will be taking outgoing QSL cards to the Bureau on approximately January 15th, see page 20 for more info. The January meeting will be great as it features guest speaker Charlie, KC1IKA talking about emergency communications.

Have an article or suggestion for Zero Beat? Drop me an email at kd1ku@arrl.net. The Holidays are over so I hope to see everyone at the next Zoom meeting being held on January 7th 2022!

Happy New Year! Ken - KD1KU

Things to Remember

Remember all yearly membership dues expire on August 31st

We want to hold a Tech license or upgrade class, someone must lead it!

The next outgoing QSL cards will be sent out approximately 1/15/22
See page 20 for details or contact Paul, NF1G at NF1G@arrl.net

January 7th 2022 Zoom Club Meeting

This meeting will feature Charlie, KC1IKA and Emergency Communications, Go-Boxes and ways to power your station off grid!

Not only is this presentation going to be extremely interesting but also very practical if you don't want to be dependant on big power companies.

The Zoom meeting begins at 7pm with a social rag chew 1/2 hour.
The regular meeting begins at 7:30pm on Friday, January 7th.

Upcoming Zoom Meetings and Guest Speakers

 <p>September 2021</p>	<p>Everything you need to know to work satellites with equipment you already own by Gary, AA1UE</p>
 <p>OCTOBER 2021</p>	<p>Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC will speak on his plans to be the next NE Director. After his presentation he'll be taking questions from you. This is your chance to ask him your questions... one on one.</p>
 <p>November 2021</p>	<p>November 5th 2021 How you can create and maintain your very own You Tube channel. Plus, How you can start your own POTA Activation by Rob, N1NUG</p>
 <p>DECEMBER 2021</p>	<p>The Annual HCRA Holiday Party at The Steaming Tender Restaurant December 6th, 6:30 to 9:30pm A Night of Food and Fun! (subject to change due to Covid variant)</p>
 <p>JANUARY 2022</p>	<p>All About EMCOMM or Emergency Communications including Go-Boxes and several ways to power off grid operations by Charlie, KC1IKA</p>
 <p>FEBRUARY 2022</p>	<p>Building your very own Contest Station - Presented by DX Engineering</p>
 <p>MARCH 2022</p>	<p>Ken Caruso, W01N ~ President of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club will be giving a special presentation about the YCCC and what their all about</p>
 <p>April 2022</p>	<p>Show and Tell is back... This has always been one of the very best and most interesting out of all the meetings!</p>
 <p>MAY 2022</p>	<p>Guest Speaker To Be Announced</p>
 <p>June 2022</p>	<p>Elections, Field Day prep and more. Please consider running for a board position, HCRA is better with you involved!</p>

SHARE THE KNOWLEDGE MEETINGS

STK ZOOM MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2022

Share the Knowledge Zoom meetings are of great interest to the amateur radio community and they feature a wealth of knowledge for today's ham radio operator. Beginning January 18th the Long Island CW Club will present almost everything necessary to get you started in CW or to refresh your code etiquette.

Watch the Reflector Email List for the Zoom link prior to each Share the Knowledge Zoom meeting. Larry, W1AST has been working extremely hard to put all of these STK Zoom meetings together for everyone!

January 18th - 7pm	Featuring the Long Island CW Club	By Rich, K2UPS
January 25th - 7pm	D-Star - What is it and how to use it	By Cory, KU1U
February 8th - 7pm	Introduction to FT8 and FT4 Digital Modes	By Dom, N1DM
February 22nd - 7pm	Traffic Handling and the Radiogram	By Marcia, KW1U
March 8th	To be Announced	
March 22nd	To be Announced	

SHOW YOUR SHACK!

NEW!

Submit your shack by sending one or two photos and a brief description of the primary equipment in your shack to: kd1ku@arrl.com

This Month Features the Shack of Pete, W1RM

Pete has a magnificent shack! His primary radio is the Elecraft K4D, amp is an Expert 2K-FA, his keyer is a Logikey K-5, paddle is a Begali Sculpture (single lever), a Yaesu 2800 rotor with a Green Heron Engineering controller. Pete's shack also has a computer, three monitors with the left one used for WSJT, an extension of the center monitor or his DX Atlas to show the grayline. Right monitor displays the Panadapter output from his K4D. All logging is done with N1MM, QSO's go to DXKeeper which handles QSL's, Awards & LoTW.



Pete's Antennas Are All On A Single 80 Foot Rohn 45 Tower

- 160 Meters ~ Double L
- 80 Meters ~ Delta Loop
- 40 Meters ~ Force 12 MAG240N at 90'
- 20-15-10 Meters ~ Force 12 C31XR at 80'
- 17-12 Meters ~ Force 12 WARC 2 Element Duobander at 30'
- 6 Meters ~ Innova 5 Elements at 85'



January 2022 - From the Presidents Shack

Happy New Year 2022!

If you missed the holiday party on December 6th, you missed a fun get together. The company was excellent, the food was tasty, the door prizes were fun, the location is always interesting. It was a great gathering for 50 of us. A huge improvement over the past few years and one that everyone agreed was where we should be next year too. Take a look at Kens photographs of the party elsewhere in this ZeroBeat.

When I wrote the December Presidents Shack message in Mid-November, the sunspot numbers were up quite a bit. Then they plummeted to near the prior years just in time for the 10m contest. Of course, 2 days later they were on the increase to better than a month ago. Go figure. Hopefully they will stay up and the DX and other contests to come in the next few months will be quite enjoyable letting us hear and work more in the coming months.

January, February, March, and April can be tough with the short days, cold weather and still no in person HCRA meetings. But we have been hard at work to bring you content in between the meetings. That is in the form of mid-week Share The Knowledge sessions for you. As of right now, we have 2 set for both January and February with March and April in the works.

Here is the Share The Knowledge schedule so far:

- Tuesday, January 18th at 7:00 pm: The Long Island CW Club by Rich, K2UPS
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81134625155?pwd=azZCSmhiTzhhTGZJRfZZb1BFSmZsUT09>
- Tuesday, January 25th at 7:00 pm: D-Star – What is it and how to use it? By Cory, KU1U
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83913598149?pwd=QUhWSkxTZDcxN2NwRGIlbGlqcE5FdZ09>
- Tuesday, February 8th at 7:00 pm: FT8/FT4 – Everything you want to know about both by Dom, N1DM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82233416230?pwd=WGpiRVVRsd3FxeE01Z3BHMGJzTnE0QT09>
- Tuesday, February 22nd at 7:00 pm: Traffic Handling and the Radiogram by Marcia, KW1U
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86576431794?pwd=VXk4Wi8zU0EwUDBzMlRqNnVvVndtQT09>

Put the dates in your calendar. You don't want to miss them and even if you are familiar with each, you can always pick up something new.

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS SHACK CONT'D

Each session will be 30 to 60 minutes with Questions. I do hope you will join us as they will all be very interesting.

If you have a subject that you think will be interesting or know of a possible speaker, send me an email at w1ast@arrl.net

Did you receive any new ham gear during the holidays? I have added an Icom IC-705 QRP portable HF/VHF/UHF/D-Star radio to my shack. I have a lot to learn about it, but so far, I am very impressed with the rig. I can't wait to take it camping and for now, it's on my shack desk for me to learn and use it. What did you get?

For January contests there is the ARRL VHF contest, the North America QSO Party in SSB and Winter Field Day are the biggest for the month. End the month with a bang on January 29th and 30th. WFD is a lot of fun, especially if you are hardy enough to operate outside. Friends tell me that an ice fishing tent works very well. I'll be running it from inside my shack probably. Learn more at: winterfieldday.com or other contests at: contestcalendar.com

Working stations during a contest is a great way to get some on the air time, possibly work some rare stations, have fun with radio and an opportunity to invite a new ham over to experience HF or other modes beyond FM. There are hams that have never gotten on the air, if you know someone like this, invite them over, spend time with them and introduce them to HF along with other modes. This is called Mentoring and is one of the best things you can do as a ham.

If you have been Mentored and want to honor someone, you can submit them for an "Elmer" award. Elmer was the term used before Mentoring and the ARRL has not yet changed it.

You can go here: arrl.org/elmer-award Fill in the form; it's very simple and your Mentor/Elmer will receive one in the mail. It's quite an honor to open one up and see both your name and their name. Honor your Elmer/Mentor today!

I had been hearing grumblings about having in person meetings again and a few grumblings about changing the meeting day to another day. I did two quick polls. The first was for Friday night as usual, Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon, Sunday morning, Sunday afternoon. Friday night is still the day by a huge margin.

I did a second poll to see if Monday through Friday nights might be better too. Friday night still won out by a 4 to 1 voters' choice. Friday night is the day everyone wants for their Monthly meetings.

The subject of in person meetings comes up at pretty much every board meeting in some form or during the month in a group discussion. Considering all the new variants of Covid, the board has decided to continue the monthly meetings via Zoom for at least the next 3 to 4 months. We will then re-visit the discussion at that time.

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FROM THE PRESIDENTS SHACK CONT'D

Wintertime is a great time to work on some sort of project. April is a great time to SHOW and TELL all about that project at the HCRA's annual Show & Tell meeting, now let's get building! You can show anything that has to do with ham radio from building your first dipole, to modifying something to building some kit to re-organizing your station or anything you may think of that has to do with our wonderful hobby. You have a little over 3 months to assemble it and then we want to hear about it!

Some of us have tossed around some interesting and fun ideas to add to Field Day weekend in June.

You'll start to see these mentioned here in February or March, so stay tuned.

For now, Here is the link for the January Meeting on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86063946052?pwd=ZU9qV1hRdGM3Q2pOSStRVmt4ekFVUT09>

Best 73,

Larry, W1AST

MENTORING NEW HAMS

At some point in our ham radio lives, most of us have taken some sort of a licensing class. I did to earn my novice license, many of you have in recent years, to earn their Technician or other licenses.

It is VERY important that we continue to give back to our hobby by helping people to earn their first license or to help them upgrade to General. The importance of teaching new students is imperative for new growth of ham radio.

This is where YOU come in. We need your help to organize and teach a Tech class for the HCRA. You will not have to teach the whole class, just a module or two. We would like to do a 4 or 5 week class and need volunteers to teach it.

The Importance of Teaching New Students is falling on you. Are you up for this small challenge?

The HCRA would like to start a class in mid to late February. It will be taught on Zoom. Other clubs are doing this successfully and the HCRA can too. But we NEED your help!

To volunteer please contact Larry, W1AST at HamOp.W1AST@gmail.com

HOLIDAY PARTY PHOTO JOURNAL

PHOTOS OF THE HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE STEAMING TENDER RESTAURANT



A DAY AT W1AW

SOMETHING SO WONDERFUL THAT'S RIGHT IN OUR BACKYARD, HAVE YOU BEEN THERE?

On December 10th I had the good fortune of going to W1AW with Larry, W1AST. I've lived in New England all of my life but have never had the chance to operate the W1AW station at ARRL headquarters in Newington, CT.

Larry operated 40m CW and SSB on a Kenwood TS-590S into an Acom amp while I was the op of a FTDX-9000D Yaesu feeding a Yaesu VL-1000 1kw amp on 20m. Both were feeding a couple of those massive hunks of aluminum on the antenna farm outside!

If you've never been to W1AW make it a New Year's Resolution. Visit W1AW and ARRL headquarters in 2022, this is one resolution you won't break! For more information visit: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw>

Below are a few photos to get you excited about going to W1AW to operate but remember you can only transmit on the frequency's your license class allows. Have fun!

73, Ken ~ KD1KU



W1AW



WINTER FIELD DAY, COME JOIN US!

SPEND SOME TIME WITH JOHN, N1JIE AND HAROLD, N1FTP AND HAVE SOME FUN AT WFD!

If you remember reading the March, 2021 Zero Beat (if not you can download it at (<http://www.hcra.org/zb/Mar21.pdf>), where Harold, N1FTP and I had some fun operating outdoors for Winter Field Day. It's gonna happen once again – Winter Field Day (<https://www.winterfieldday.com>) is January 29th - 30th, 2022. It's not an ARRL event, but its purpose is very similar, operating outdoors in winter is just as important as the summer operations of ARRL Field Day.



Hampton Ponds is park K-2439 in POTA (<https://parksontheair.com>). This was my first activation, and got me hooked on portable ops and POTA. So, we will do our best to get each operator at least 10 contacts, to complete a park activation. This may be difficult for the Tech licensees on 10M, so I hope that other club members will keep an ear on the 28.375 vicinity to get those contacts!! I may be able to get a 2M antenna up also, and will try to get contacts there also.

So – if you are interested – and I hope many are – contact me, and I will provide more details. If you get in the mood on Jan 29 and want to join in – feel free! We will have paper log sheets, maybe a campfire or a grill, hot water / cocoa.

Plans are to be setup at the park between noon and 2 pm on Saturday, and operate for a couple hours (till dusk). If enough interested parties want, we can do it again Sunday morning for a longer period. I hope interested folks will show up early to help / observe the setup – POTA ops should be simple and quick. Antennas and station setup is very quick. I can setup my POTA station in 15 mins from the time I get to the site, and I can carry almost everything in 1 trip. SO being there for the setup will be at least as much of an experience as the operation.

The goal is to get hams new to portable ops and POTA to get at least 10 contacts, and make sure the logs are complete, and ready to convert to cabrillo electronic format. Vaccinations and masks are required while close. Microphones / station will be wiped down between operators. In general operators will be alone in the tent, with possibly 1 additional mentor / Elmer for newly licensed hams.

Hope to see folks there – there will be plenty of room, plenty of fun, and completely different than summer field day. Dress for ice fishing – yup, I just may wander off and setup a few tipups!

73, John, N1JIE and Harold, N1FTP



Anniversary of Transatlantic Communication

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF TRANSATLANTIC AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATION

100 Year Anniversary of Transatlantic Amateur Short Wave Radio Communication Commemoration!

In the early 20th century, it was believed that frequencies below 200 meters, known as “shortwave”, were useless for long distance communication and therefore of no interest to commercial radio stations. It was for this reason that Amateur Radio Operators were given access to the bands with which we are so familiar today.

In 1921, a group of Amateur operators who were also well-known radio engineers, from the Radio club of America, in conjunction with the ARRL, decided to attempt to demonstrate that transatlantic communication was possible using shortwave frequencies. After setting up a station in Greenwich, Connecticut, with the call, 1BCG, and sending a member of the ARRL, Paul Godley to England (later, Scotland) to listen for the transmissions, they succeeded in their demonstration – for more information about how this happened, see the articles which appeared in the December (2021) issue of QST, or visit this website: <http://1bcg.org/1BCG> which has excellent videos and articles related to the equipment, persons and events related to this historic record.

To commemorate the 1921 Transatlantic Test, four organizations – the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the Antique Wireless Association (AWA), the Radio Club of America (RCA) and the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut (VRCMCT) – collaborated to recreate the event. On the evening of December 11, 2021, a replica of the original transmitter was set-up at the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum in Windsor, Connecticut, to transmit signals as Amateur Radio Station, W2AN/1BCG.



Joel Kosoff, W3ZT operating W2AN/1BCG at the Vintage Radio Communications Museum of Connecticut during 100th anniversary event



Larry Bearse, WA1LJQ is seen here monitoring a remote receiver that located approximately 25 miles away

John Ellsworth, Director of the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum, Robert Hobday (N2EVG), Antique Wireless Association President and Chairman, and Bob Allison (WB1GCM) President of the VRCMCT Amateur Radio Club and retired ARRL Test Engineer, coordinated the event. Bob Allison, assisted by Larry Bearse (WA1LJQ) designed and oversaw the construction of a 160-meter antenna for use with the replica transmitter. In order to monitor the transmitter, as well as to have two way-communications on 160m, Larry Bearse set-up a receiver with a remote internet link at a site in Ashford, Connecticut, to minimize the electrical noise level during receiving.

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Anniversary of Transatlantic Communication CONT'D

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF TRANSATLANTIC AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATION



Bob Allison, WB1GCM President of the VRCM Amateur Radio Club speaking about the 100th year of the transatlantic event



John Ellsworth, Director, VRCMCT

The replica of the transmitter used by 1BCG in 1921 was built in 1996 using 1921 parts by AWA members Bob Raide, W2ZM (SK), and Mike, (W2ZM), Raide. The transmitter has an oscillator and amplifier tubes and usually produces about 400 watts output. The original UV204 triodes are not available now, so 204A tubes are used. The replica was brought to the Vintage Radio and Communications museum and operated by Joel Kosoff (W3ZT) who built the power supply for the radio. In addition, Bruce Littlefield, Paul Godley's grandson, came to the museum and set up a display of Godley's original logbook of his copying the first transatlantic shortwave signals.

Seeing the "breadboard" replica transmitter – which was the "top of the line" in 1921 for an amateur radio transmitter, but looked so primitive today - was very exciting. It was an opportunity to experience what it was like to be an early Ham operator. After a good start, the transmitter developed some technical problems such as it not operating at the preferred frequency, and, soon, in the words of Bob Allison, there was a "flash, bang and smoke." There were burning wires, an exploding fuse, and an RF choke that smoked. Joel Kosoff ably did the troubleshooting to keep the rig working at a reduced output of 200 watts, though eventually some of the antique parts began to fail completely. There was no doubt in anyone's mind that operating such a transmitter was decidedly an exciting and dangerous effort.

Photo Credits:

Images #1 & 2 - Bill Cook, W1FMX

Images #3, 4, & 5 - Michael Pfaeffle, K3FEF

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Anniversary of Transatlantic Communication Cont'd

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF TRANSATLANTIC AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATION



(Above) Larry Bearse (WA1LJQ) Explaining Transmitter
with VRCM Ham Club Shack in Background

But ultimately, the replica worked that night and accomplished the goal of commemorating the first transatlantic shortwave test. Despite the problems that were encountered operating the transmitter, the signal was heard in Europe that evening, both in Ireland and the United Kingdom, as well as at stations in the Midwest of the USA and Canada.

This event commemorated the first use of shortwave to cover thousands of miles. The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) acknowledged the significance of the Transatlantic Test, and once shortwave was proven to work by Amateur Radio Operators, international broadcasting soon followed. This was why the event held on December 11th was so important to international broadcasters and Amateurs alike. It proved definitively that short waves were not as useless as first thought 100 years ago.

To see a video of the operation of the replica transmitter at the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum, paste this title into the Search box on You Tube: Transatlantic Tests Part 2 or click the link below.

Transatlantic Tests Part 2 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8pMzzC-dZg>

73, Bill - W1FMX

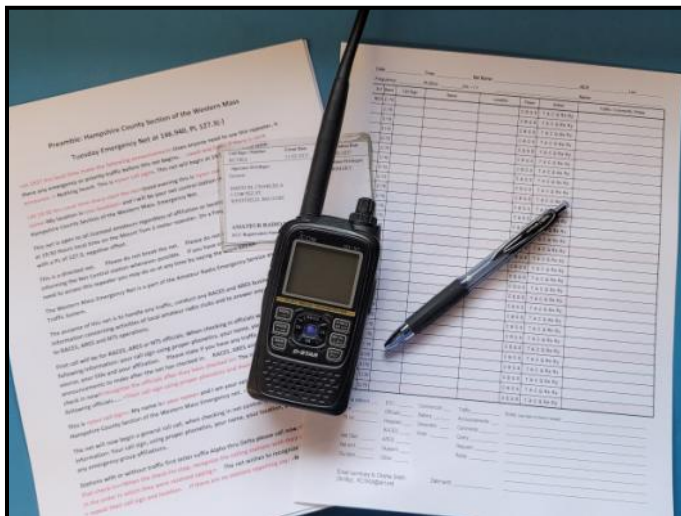
ARES NCS Shortage!

ARES NET CONTROL STATION STAFFING SHORTAGE - CAN YOU HELP?

Amateur Radio Emergency Services is an organization dedicated to assist with emergency communications in times of need. We are a group of amateur radio operators who practice weekly for the situations we hope do not occur.

This year we have had numerous occasions across the country where ARES members were requested to provide reliable communications when natural disasters severely impacted normal communications. The members who were available stepped in and provided comms in, around, and out of the disaster areas.

ARES has three nets in this area on a weekly basis. Two on Sunday mornings and one on Tuesday evenings. These nets insure we have the capacity and training to react to a local communication outage if needed. As with any volunteer group, many of us won't be available if that happens. The first rule of any emergency group is family comes first. So being an ARES member is not a promise to be there, it is a commitment to help, if possible.



With that said, the more members we have trained the better chance a few will be available when the time comes. The same is true for the amateur radio operators who perform the function of Net Control for these nets. They keep the net organized and focused as well as efficient. Not all of them will be available when the time comes but the more, we have trained the better chance of getting a few.

I recently accepted the position of Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator, the net coordinator for Western Mass ARES. I would like to get our Net Control Station (NCS) numbers up to four each for Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings. That way we only have to do one shift a month but will have eight to draw from in an emergency.

At the end of this year, we will be down to just two Net Control Stations. We used to have six. A Net Control Station reads from a script, known as a preamble, and logs the information from the stations that check in. After the net is done, typically 15 to 20 minutes on Tuesdays and about 45 minutes on Sundays, you email the results to the net manager, Smitty, KC1IKA. This takes about another 5 minutes. We are looking for operators willing to put in one shift a month, less than an hour a month.

There are quite a few amateurs who check into the nets every week. If you would be interested in volunteering for one shift a month, please contact Smitty at KC1IKA@ARRL.net. We will provide the preamble, log sheets and all the training you will need. You just need to be able to reach the Mount Tom repeater, 146.940 and possess a technician license or above. If you already check into the nets, you already meet all the qualifications.

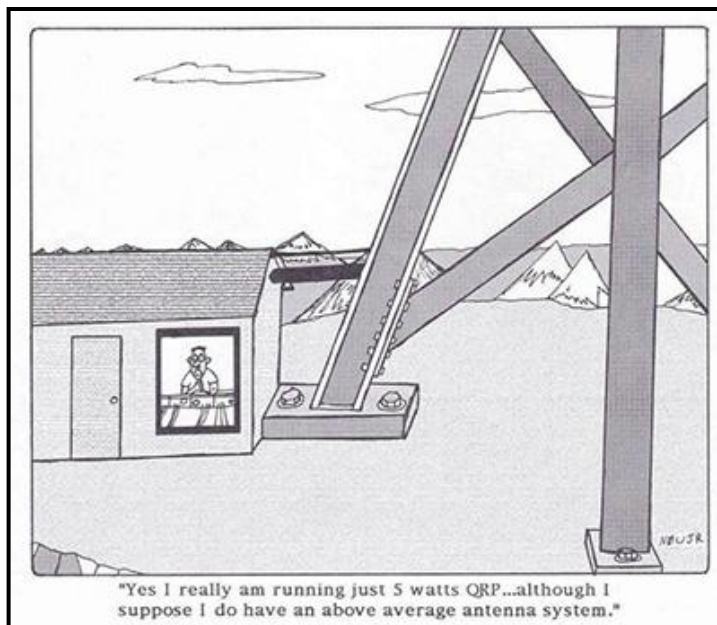
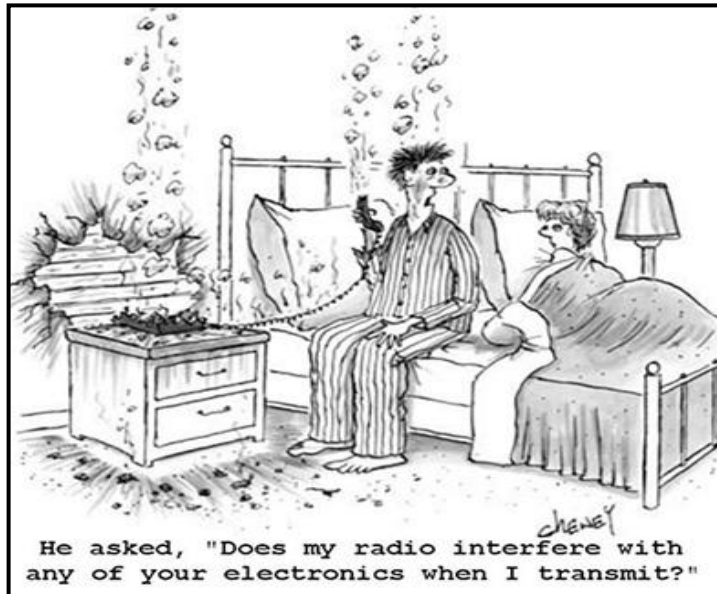
If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Smitty, KC1IKA, and he will get you the documents and scheduled for training. If you would like to sign up to become an ARES member, go to wma.arrl.org, click on EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS then Register as a new ARES member.

73, Charlie (Smitty), KC1IKA

ASEC WMA ARES, Net Control Manager

Hamtoons

RF humor (Really Funny)



Things are happening in the world of Amateur Radio. ARRL is our advocate for Government, education and organization. I hope everyone that is a member of HCRA is also a member of ARRL.

Volunteer Monitor Program

The ARRL Volunteer Monitor program is a formal agreement between the FCC and ARRL. Volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL monitor the airwaves and collect evidence that can be used both to correct misconduct or recognize exemplary on-air operation. Cases of flagrant violations are referred to the FCC by ARRL for action in accordance with FCC guidelines.

This program re-energizes enforcement efforts in the amateur radio bands. It was originally proposed by the FCC following several FCC regional office closures and a reduction in field staff. Under this program, the FCC gives enforcement priority to cases developed by the Volunteer Monitor program, without the delay of ARRL having to refer cases through the FCC online complaint process.

Read the MOU between the FCC and ARRL establishing the ARRL Volunteer Monitoring Program
<https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Volunteer%20Monitor/2019%20ARRL%20MOU%20-%20final%203-12.pdf>

How to Report a Possible Violation to ARRL as a regular (non-VM) ham

To report clear violations of FCC Part 97, particularly instances of unlicensed operation, repeated deliberate interference, and operation outside of a licensee's authorized frequencies, send the report via email to Riley Hollingsworth (K4ZDH), ARRL Volunteer Monitor Administrator, at K4ZDH@arrl.org

Important: include the following information in your report
Frequency (MHz) of incident:
Time of incident (UTC):
Date of incident:
Call sign(s) of station(s) being reported:

If a repeater, call sign of repeater involved:
Description of alleged incident being reported:
Your full name (person submitting report)
Your call sign:
Your email address:

World's Smallest Moon Lander from Japan will Put Ham Radio Transmitter on the Moon 12/09/2021

Japan's OMOTENASHI, the world's smallest moon lander, will have an X-band and UHF communication system, although it will not carry an amateur band transponder. OMOTENASHI is a 6U CubeSat set for launch via a NASA SLS rocket as early as February 2022. It will have a mission period of from 4 to 5 days. The name is an acronym for Outstanding Moon Exploration Technologies demonstrated by Nano Semi-Hard Impactor. Wataru Torii of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Ham Radio Club, JQ1ZVI, said radio amateurs can play a role in gathering data from the spacecraft.

The spacecraft is made up of two separable components, both having independent communication systems — an orbiting module and a surface probe. The orbiting module will take the surface probe to the moon. It will transmit beacon or digital telemetry data on UHF (437.31 MHz). The surface probe — the moon lander — will transmit digital telemetry or three-axis acceleration analog-wave with FM modulation on UHF (437.41 MHz). Transmitter power will be 1 W in both cases.

If we succeed in receiving the UHF signal from the surface probe, we could know the acceleration data on the impact on the moon and the success of the landing sequence, Torii explained. We already have a station for uplink and downlink at Wakayama in Japan - used as an EME [moonbounce] station. However, if the satellite is invisible from Japan, we cannot receive the downlink signal. So, we need a lot of help from ham radio stations worldwide. Torii noted that the RF system on the lander only operates on UHF.

The orbiting module beacon will transmit on 437.31 MHz using PSK31. The surface probe beacon will transmit on 437.41 MHz using FM, PSK31, and PCM-PSK/PM.

Western Massachusetts Section News: <https://wma.arrl.org>

ARRL New England Division: <https://nediv.arrl.org>

ARRL Western Massachusetts Section Manager - Raymond P. Lajoie, AA1SE - aa1se@arrl.org

To learn more about an ARRL membership, and how it can help you - <http://www.arrl.org/membership>



ITEM'S FOR SALE

HCRA MEMBER ITEMS FOR SALE, TRADE OR WANTED

FOR SALE!

Ham Equipment from the Estate of W6IS - Contact Larry, w1ast@arrl.net

Note: Many prices have been reduced since the December issue

- 1 Collins 75S-1 \$800
- 2 ~~Kenwood SSB Transceiver 3.5 - 29.7 MHz Model TS520 \$125~~ **SOLD**
- 3 Kenwood Model TS940S \$650
- 4 Collins Type 5164 - 2 S/N 10378
- 5 Collins 32S - 1 \$800
- 6 Sprague Tube Tester Model
- 7 ~~Kenwood Model TS440S \$275~~ **SOLD**
- 8 Kenwood SP430 Speaker \$25
- 9 Samlex America Model SEC1212 Switching DC Power Supply \$30
- 10 Yaesu FT727R Dual Band Handy Transceiver 2 Meters \$25
- 11 ICOM IC2100H w/mobile mic \$80
- 12 ~~Yaesu FT-100D \$350~~ **SOLD**
- 13 Yaesu FT - 109RH Handheld \$20
- 14 Yaesu FT - 209RH Handheld B \$20
- 15 Collins Station Control Model 312B - 4 \$150
- 16 Butternut HF2V 80 & 40m Vertical Antenna Brand New in box HRO LIST \$450 \$275
- 17 Astron RS - 12A \$35
- 18 Kenwood TM221A 2m mobile \$50
- 19 MFJ Deluxe Electronic Keyer MFJ-407B \$30
- 20 HY-GAIN Tail Twister Direction Control Model T2X \$75
- 21 ~~Kenwood SP930 Speaker \$50~~ **SOLD**
- 22 RCP Radio City Products Model 664 \$30
- 23 Yaesu SP55 Speaker \$20
- 24 Precision 120 Meter \$ make offer
- 25 ~~Vibroplex Iambic Chrome w/plastic cover \$150~~ **SOLD**

Do you have an item(s) that you would like to sell? Or something you are looking for?
As long as it's ham radio related please list it here by contacting kd1ku@arrl.net



HCRA STUFF

HCRA is an ARRL Special Service Club



License Class!

HCRA is looking for someone to organize a ham radio license class this Winter but we need your help to make this work. We need a volunteer to lead this class. You don't have to teach the class but rather we need somebody to organize the class and get other club members to help, teach ect.

If someone doesn't step up to do this, there will NOT be a class at all!

Please step up and lead this class so that others can get their license or upgrade!

For additional information contact Larry at: w1ast@arrrl.net

Brown Baggers are Back!

For the benefit of our newer members Brown Baggers is a friendly lunch get together that happens on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. It is held at [The Munich Haus Restaurant](#) in Chicopee Center at 12:00pm (Noon). Located at 13 Center St, Chicopee, MA. Across from City Hall or click the link above.

Enjoy lunch, conversation and camaraderie with your fellow hams. Everyone is welcome!

10 Meter Net fall/winter Schedule

The 10 meter net Fall schedule will be as follows: Beginning in Sept. the net has returned to every Monday at 7pm on 28.375usb. Marcel, AA1WH is NCS. Everyone is welcome to join in regardless of club affiliation. Weekly topics are posted on the HCRA Facebook group and the Reflector email list.

Memorial Page

All members now have the opportunity to honor club member SK's in the all new Memorial Page on hcra.org. This can be done by sending in the SK members name and callsign along with any text, stories and can also include photo's too. Send them to our webmaster, Vanessa, W1IRL at the following email address: webmaster@hcra.org

**Please check-out the HCRA You Tube Channel and while you're there don't forget to click subscribe!
I hope that many members are working on their short video's for the club's You Tube channel.
For more info see the April issue of Zero Beat. The You Tube Channel link is below**

For Sale Items

There is a For-Sale section that is for HCRA members. Any members who have a want, something to sell or even to trade.

Send item description and photo(s) to:
kd1ku@arrrl.net

HCRA Social Media Links

You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/HampdenCountyRA>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HampdenCountyRA>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HampdenCountyRA>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/hampdencountyra>

Clublog update: Clublog can be accessed at <https://clublog.org/league.php> Signup is free, and there are a number of ways to lookup information. Give it a try, who knows... you might like it!

This is the clublog with open dates—basically it's a history from the start of each persons log. As you can see, many of the top members have many years on the air.

HCRA Clublog Information Updated on January 2nd 2022



Your Log

DXCC Charts

Satellite Charts

Timelines

Grid Squares

QSL Charts

Zone Charts

Log Inspector

Log Matching

League Tables

DXCC Leagues

Satellite Leagues

Zone Leagues

Club Leagues

CDXC Challenges

Super League

Uniques League

Tools

DX Cluster

Log Search

Call Tester

Most Wanted

DXCC Analysis

Propagation

Great Circle Maps

LoTW Sync

ADIF Diff

QSL Archive

DXCC Leagues

The leagues are rebuilt once per day. Only callsigns active in the last 12 months are included in the league tables. The maximum size of a league is 2000 participants.

☒ No Mode Filter
 ☐ CW
 ☐ Phone
 ☐ Data

☒ Rank by DXCCs
 ☐ Rank by slots
 Rank by band: Totals ▼

☒ 160M
 ☒ 80M
 ☒ 60M
 ☒ 40M
 ☒ 30M
 ☒ 20M
 ☒ 17M
 ☒ 15M
 ☒ 12M
 ☒ 10M
 ☒ 6M

☒ Current entities
 ☐ Current and deleted
 ☒ Worked
 ☐ Confirmed

☒ No Date Filter
 ☐ 2022
 ☐ 2021
 ☐ Last 12 months

Filter by club/continent:
 HCRA - Hampden County Radio Association ▼

League for HCRA - Hampden County Radio Association

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC ▼	Slots	Range
1	W1JA	58	175	29	239	193	316	204	302	148	286	57	340	2007	44 yrs
2	W1RM+1	179	294	10	334	317	337	329	336	319	320	90	339	2865	59 yrs
3	KK1W+1	140	196	7	275	228	309	279	281	219	234	78	330	2246	45 yrs
4	NF1Q	0	101	0	245	258	305	207	270	203	219	78	319	2000	36 yrs
5	W1PY+1	34	118	0	201	64	248	211	244	132	205	8	292	1465	12 yrs
6	KX1X	67	132	66	188	163	208	140	216	95	197	20	256	1492	25 yrs
7	N1TA+3	111	154	27	199	104	211	108	199	33	133	0	256	1279	20 yrs
8	K1NZ+1	115	159	86	171	200	187	168	152	98	80	8	253	1424	11 yrs
9	K1VOI	5	67	2	115	62	205	141	163	72	144	3	247	979	20 yrs
10	W1AST+1	5	60	9	104	29	168	120	135	18	122	7	204	777	13 yrs
		160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6			
11	NT1K+2	9	49	2	103	36	184	45	142	47	123	1	200	741	11 yrs
12	N1FTP	0	7	0	64	0	170	47	119	16	109	2	184	534	13 yrs
13	WD1S	49	56	0	117	33	143	30	95	11	98	2	172	634	10 yrs
14	N1JIE	2	5	3	31	31	61	29	14	6	7	2	86	191	4 yrs
15	AB1ZJ	0	0	0	24	0	45	0	0	1	0	0	54	70	5 yrs
16	N1FJ	0	0	0	6	0	30	0	16	3	16	0	51	71	8 yrs

You can link to your club here: <https://clublog.org/league.php?club=189>

Clublog update: Clublog can be accessed at <https://clublog.org/league.php> Signup is free, and there are a number of ways to lookup information. Give it a try, who knows... you just might like it!

This is the HCRA Clublog for 2022 - you can see who has been on the air hot and heavy so far this year!



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Rank by band: Totals ▼

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☒ Current entities

☐ Current and deleted

☒ Worked

☐ Confirmed

☐ No Date Filter

☒ 2022

☐ 2021

☐ Last 12 months

Filter by club/continent:

HCRA - Hampden County Radio Association ▼

Generate DXCC League

League for HCRA - Hampden County Radio Association

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC ▼	Slots	Range
1	NF1G	0	0	0	9	14	1	0	9	46	7	0	78	86	38 yrs
2	KX1X	0	5	0	15	3	3	0	32	2	0	0	50	60	25 yrs
3	W1RM+1	0	1	0	20	2	9	1	7	2	0	0	31	42	50 yrs
4	W1FY+1	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	11	0	1	0	28	28	12 yrs
5	K1NZ+1	9	0	9	0	6	0	0	0	3	2	0	20	29	11 yrs
6	W1AST+1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	13 yrs

You can link to your club here: <https://clublog.org/league.php?club=189>

ZERO BEAT January 2022

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DOTS & DASHES

THINGS THAT DON'T FIT ANYPLACE ELSE!

MTARA Hamfest is back on for 2022!

The 33rd annual MTARA Amateur Radio & Electronics Hamfest is on for 2022, Saturday March 5, 2022. Doors open at 6:30am for vendors and 8:30am for General Admission (8am if vendors are ready).

Get all the details and vendor form visit: <https://mtara.org>

January 2 - 31st is Straight Key Month

Starting on January 2nd SKCC members around the world will be operating special event CW stations using only straight key, bug and cootie keys. These three key types are the original instruments of early radiotelegraphy, which this event celebrates. This is our 16th Straight Key Month event and the 16th anniversary of SKCC. The Straight Key Century Club is the most active group of mechanical-key Morse code radiotelegraph operators in the world. Founded in January 2006, we have thousands of members around the globe. For additional information visit: <https://skccgroup.com/k3y/k3y.php>

Contests and Special Event Stations

Contests - www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

January 15-16, 2022 | North American QSO Party, CW | 1800z Saturday - 0559z Sunday

For more details visit: <http://www.ncjweb.com>

January 22-23, 2022 | North American QSO Party, SSB | 1800z Saturday - 0559z Sunday

For more details visit: <http://www.ncjweb.com>

Special Event Stations - [Special Event Station Search](#)

Jan 19 - 24, 2022 | 0400z-0359z | 80th Anniversary of the 8th Air Force | Special Event

For additional details see: <https://www.qrz.com/db/WW2FLY>

Search for more Special Event Stations at: <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

HCRA Member Outgoing QSL Service

QSL's will be sent to the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau quarterly on the following approximate dates:

April 15th, June 15th, Sept 15th, and **January 15th**

See hcra.org for complete information

or

Contact Paul, NFIG at NFIG@arrl.net



Local Nets & Happenings

Sundays: 0845 Western MA. Emergency Net on 146.94, PL 127.3 W1TOM/R

Sundays: 0915 Western MA. Emergency Net on 443.200, PL 127.3 W1TOM/R

1st Monday:

RACES Drill, 1845, 146.49 Simplex

Mondays: 1900 7pm (Local) **HCRA 10 Meter Net 28.375 usb**

New topic each week. Have an idea for a topic? kd1ku@arrrl.net

Tuesdays: 1930-2000: 146.94, PL 127.3 - W1TOM/R - Hampshire County Emergency Net

Wednesdays: 1930: MTARA Info net followed by the swap net & the N1RLX simplex net on 146.94, PL 127.3 W1TOM/R

2000: MTARA Swap net: 146.94, PL 127.3 - W1TOM/R

2000: MTARA (N1RLX) Simplex Net, Check-in's 146.94, PL 127.3, then goes to 146.42 Simplex Immediately following the swap net

2100: Weather Net (Roger, K1PAI), 1st Thursday of every month: 147.090 MHz, All other Thursdays: 147.000, PL 127.3 - W1TOM/R

Join or Renew Your ARRL Membership!

ARRL members enjoy:

- QST Magazine
- Members-Only Web Services
- Technical Information Service
- Member Discounts
- Outgoing QSL Service
- Continuing Education
- ARRL as an Advocate
- Regulatory Information Branch
- Public Relations for Amateur Radio
- ARRL Field Organization
- ARRL-sponsored contests
- Operating Awards
- Local Clubs
- Amateur Radio Emergency Service
- Hamfests and Conventions
- Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Program



<http://www.arrrl.org/membership>

Club Meetings and VE Sessions

Please contact site / organization to ensure it will meet.
Clubs meet on Zoom, VE sessions are being developed.

1st Friday of the month at 7:30pm HCRA Meeting.
Virtual meetings are held via Zoom. Meetings start with a rag chew session at 7pm followed by the regular Zoom meeting at 7:30pm. <http://www.hcra.org/>

2nd Monday of the month 7:00pm, Franklin County Amateur Radio Club meeting. Virtual meetings via Zoom until it is safe to meet in person at the Greenfield Community College. <http://www.fcarc.org/>

Saturday before the FCARC meeting at 8am. Breakfast at Dennys Pantry in Greenfield (as Covid allows)

Event: FCARC Pioneer Valley Experimental Net

Location: 10 Meters 28.354 MHz

When: Every Wednesday morning, 9:00 am – 10:00 am

Organizer: Brad Councilman bc@councilman.com

HCRA Contact List

President - Larry Krainson, W1AST
w1ast@arrrl.net

Vice-President - Marcel LaPierre, AA1WH
aa1wh@arrrl.net

Treasurer - Duane Pray, KC1FQV
kc1fqv@arrrl.net

Secretary - Paul Kelliher, NF1G
nf1g@arrrl.net

Programs - Gary Thomas, AA1UE
aa1ue@amsat.org

Membership - John Plaster, K1VOI
k1voi_jp@charter.net

Technical - Najm Choueiry, AB1ZA
njc2@cox.net

At Large - Bob Jeffway, WA1OJN
wa1ojn@jeffway.com

Newsletter - Ken Dion, KD1KU
kd1ku@arrrl.net

Website - Vanessa Oquendo, W1IRL
webmaster@hcra.org

W1NY trustee, John, N1JIE
n1jie@arrrl.net

WB1Z trustee, Vanessa, W1IRL



**Here is your exciting new
copy of Zero Beat!**

**Hampden County Radio Association
P.O. Box 562
Agawam, MA 01030-0562**