

Zero Beat



Our 55th Year

A Publication of the Hampden County Radio Association

March, 2001

<http://www.hcra.org>

Meetings Held at: Feeding Hills Congregational Church
21 North Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA

The New Digital Mode: PSK 31 with Steve Ford, WB8IMY

Steve has been a ham for 30 years. Born and raised in Dayton, Ohio, he originally worked in broadcasting as a DJ for several years after college, then made the transition to journalism. He was employed as an editor at the League in 1991 and became QST Managing Editor in 1995.

The Next HCRA meeting is Friday, March 2, 2001

Doors Open at 7:PM

Meeting Starts at 7:30 Sharp!

Hope to see you there!!!

This issue of *Zero Beat* was also sent to the general membership of the HCRA via e-mail.

If you would like to be included in our monthly e-mailings, see page 5 for details.

Visit our new website at: <http://www.hcra.org>

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President's

Corner

PSK31 is HOT!

This month's meeting promises to be another winner. Steve Ford, WB8IMY, will be speaking on the hot new mode; PSK31. What, you haven't heard of it? Well, come to the meeting and learn all about it. I don't want to give away all of Steve's secrets, but PSK31 is the new digital mode that is sweeping the ham bands. Imagine a system similar to RTTY, that doesn't require anything more than a computer and a sound card, that works well QRP and can fit a half dozen QSO's into the space of an SSB signal! That's PSK31.

In addition to being a PSK31 expert, Steve is also Managing Editor for QST, has written books for ARRL, product reviews for QST and is an active ham and dedicated father. Be sure to attend on March 2nd, you won't be disappointed.

Special Raffle Prizes

Going along with our PSK31 theme this month, Jordy has picked a few great prizes. First prize will be a Digipan Isolating interface from Skip Teller, KH6TY.



Digipan Isolating Interface

In addition to the interface, we will be raffling an autographed copy of Steve Ford's HF Digital Handbook.

PSK31 Challenge

Here's a special offer for anyone wishing to try the mode before the meeting. The HCRA will give you one (1) free raffle ticket for each PSK31 contact you show us in your log. QSL's are not necessary, just show us you log with the PSK31 contact(s) in it. Just to keep it even, there will be a five contact maximum on this challenge. Want some PSK31 info? Check out <http://aintel.bi.ehu.es/psk31.html>. This is a great place to get started on your new adventure!

Swap Table

Remember to bring your unwanted equipment to the meeting and put it on the swap table. Last month every item on the table sold! Stan, N1INB will be handling this interesting table at the next meetings. It's fun and you might make a few \$\$\$



Small Wonder Labs PSK31 20M Transceiver

Field Trip

Larry, WB1DBY is putting the finishing touches on a great field trip this coming June. The trip will be a day long affair and includes a visit to the National Weather Service in Taun-

ton, MA, lunch, and an afternoon at the New England Wireless and Steam Museum in E. Greenwich, RI. The date of this excursion will be June 16th. Final details are yet to be worked out and I will inform you as soon as possible. Buses, bus rates, lunch location (*most important*) and of course cost. Expectation are this is an area event, encompassing HCRA, MTARA and any other ham who might like to join us. We are targeting about 40—50 people. As the say, stay tuned for more details.

Field Day

No, this is not a repeat of last month's Field Day article. The joint event is still in the works between HCRA and MTARA. It looks like the major part of the project, securing a location, is very close at hand. It is true, one of the biggest hurdles will be behind us. Still to be decided is how the two clubs will administer the event. If you have any desire to participate in FD 2001, now is the time to come forward and make yourself known. There is a spot for everyone, and people with all types of skills, ham or non-ham are needed. In addition to operators, we need food managers, antenna erectors, generator and fuel people, public information people... the list goes on. Don't sit back and miss this one!

Tailgate Party

We have a new wrinkle for our June meeting. A tailgate (AKA Swap/Sell) Party. Irv came up with this at a past board meeting. The membership seemed very excited about it when we brought it up at the last meeting. Jordy, W1JK, is working on the details, but from the enthusiastic response last month I'll be this will be as exciting as the auction. The date for this one is June 1st, the same date as our annual elections.

Hail to the Volunteers!

I don't know if you realize it or not, but the HCRA is alive and growing because of the dedication of many people who are willing to give their time and expertise to both the hobby and HCRA. Please join me in giving special thanks to Gary, AA1UE, Larry, N1URE, Irv, W6IS, Betty, KB1CPZ, Norm, W1BMK and John, KX1X. These people have put the extra effort into the hobby and we are all the better because of it. Next time you see them, just shake their hand and say thanks, they deserve it.

Jim, KK1W



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HCRA CONTACTS

Questions, Comments, and Suggestions Can Be Directed To:

HCRA OFFICERS

President Jim Mullen, WA1ZUH (413) 245-3228 jmullen@rockys.com
Vice-President Jordan Koltz, W1JK (413) 532-3729 w1jk@earthlink.net
Treasurer Greg Stoddard, N1AEH(860) 668-5143 gstoddard@rcn.com
Secretary Dave Isham, KB1MU (413) 596-6605 kblmu@mindspring.com

HCRA DIRECTORS

At Large Les Prentice, K1DNX (413) 783-6775
Program Irv Slitzky, W6IS (413) 565-5222 w6is1@juno.com
Membership Elizabeth Buller, KB1CPZ perkyzebra@aol.com
Newsletter John Pise, KX1X (413) 532-7474 kx1x@arrl.net
Technical Stan Bates, N1INB

STATION TRUSTEES

W1NY Trustee Don Johnson, W1UPH (413) 566-3560(let it ring) wluph2@juno.com
WB1HOF Trustee Jim Mullen, WA1ZUH (413) 245-3228 jmullen@rockys.com
WM1FD Trustee John Pise, KX1X (413) 532-7474 kx1x@arrl.net

EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Emergency Coordinator Dave Isham, KB1MU (413) 596-6605

ON THE AIR

Please remember to join our Monday evening 10m Net

Join NCS Tom, N1MUV, On Monday nights, 7:30PM local for the

HCRA/W1NY 10m Net 28.375 +/- QRM

ARRL International DX Contest (SSB) - 0000z Mar 3 to 2400z Mar 4

Wisconsin QSO Party - 1800z March 11 to 0100z March 22

Alaska QSO Party - 0000z March 17 to 2400z March 18

Virginia QSO Party - 1800z March 17 to 0200z March 19

CQWW WPX Contest, SSB - 0000z March 24 to 2400z March 25

TARA Spring WakeUp PSK 31 Rumble - 0000z to 2400z April 21



DX Clips ***de*** ***Jordy, W1JK***

This month is a good time to review completing the DXCC Application form (MSD-505) which must be submitted with all DXCC submissions - new or endorsement.

1. Sending your QST label is not required. All ARRL members are in their Database.
2. MSD-505 Forms downloaded from ARRL are available in Text and .PDF form. Do not use old forms. If they are more than 2 years old they will not be accepted.
3. It is not required that you list the QSO's on the separately available 20 item form or other attached sheet unless you submit for "field review" (see end of article). It is, however, highly recommended. DXCC staff enter directly from the cards, but will refer to the listing to clarify any ambiguities.
4. Complete the first page even if there is no change in your information.
5. Check-off what you are applying for and indicate if this is a new application or endorsement by checking the proper column. New means "brand new" first time awards. Multiple Awards can be checked only if this is for Awards you do not have and are now applying for and will receive a Certificate. An endorsement means that you are upgrading. Do not check endorsement if you are submitting cards to increase totals toward a future Award. Endorsements are only for Certificates you already have.
6. You do not need to provide your Certificate number or issue date - they are in the Database.
7. The last selection in the large block is for 5 Band DXCC. Check that block if you have the 5 Bands required. They are 10-15-20-40-80M. Under Endorsement is the Bands you can endorse a 5 Band DXCC. They are 2-6-12-17-160M.
8. Enter the fees amount. The information is provided on the form now. Read it carefully or you may overpay. A "large" underpayment will delay processing.
9. A line is provided to indicate how you want your name presented on a new certificate. If you leave it blank they will use your name as presented in the address section.
10. You must enter the number of cards and QSO's on the line provided. The number of QSO's will usually be greater because the current prevailing practice is to use Computer generated labels to process multi-band QSO's on the same card. The 15 cents per QSO fee is based on this and it provides DXCC with a cross-check of their data input.
11. Be sure to check the proper block indicating the method of payment. DXCC does not open the mail-the Comptroller's Dept. separates the payment from the application and they confirm payment by stamping.
12. Important-Indicate the method of returning your cards. If nothing is checked, they will ship Registered Mail at your expense (the recommended method). Do not include return envelopes. DXCC uses their own packing.
13. Be sure to provide your membership Expiration Date on the line provided.
14. Very important-Sign the Rules affirmation statement and write your Call Sign on the line provided.
15. If you are having Irv (W6IS) field check your cards, you must complete a listing of your cards (see 3 above). Irv will verify the info. on the cards against your detailed list and then forward it to DXCC. This is what DXCC uses to enter the data. Complete all fields! Use DD/MM/YY format. Be sure to write in the name of the DX per the DXCC entity list (no ad-libbing allowed). Double-check your work or it may be returned unprocessed.

HINTS FROM DXCC:

- Make copies of your application and record sheets and retain them-permanently.
- Keep all your DXCC printouts from previous submissions in a safe place.
- Receipt confirmation can now be checked at the ARRL DXCC Website.
- Arrange the cards by Band and then Mode. You do not have to rubber-band each separately. Just keep them all together in one group. Only submit bare cards not in envelopes or albums.
- Be patient-depending on when you submit-you may wait up to 10 weeks to receive your Certificate/printout.

LOOK FOR:

- 3A, Monaco: Laura, 3A2MD is now authorized to operate on 6M. No Antenna yet-but watch for her.
- 3B9, Rodriguez Is.: Robert, 3B9FR is on 15/17/20M 1530-1930Z. Check 14025, 18073, 21295. QSL via CBA.
- 3D2, Conway: this is a very rare one. Dxpediton is expected to start operations around Feb 22.
- 3Y, Bouvet: Chuck 3Y0C very active and easy to work. He is even taking Band change and Mode requests. He should be there until March 2.
- 3W, Vietnam: Several stations heard last week. 3W2LI on 28480 around 0915Z.
- BQ9, Pratas Is.: Paul, BV4FH is authorized for another operation and should be there Mar. 6-15. Eight operators. QSL via KU9C.
- D6, Comoros: The D68C team very active until Feb 28. Easy to find and work. If you want it - they are "begging".
- EL, Liberia: Dick, EL2DT active on 21255 0930-1030Z. QSL via IKOPHY.
- EP, Iran: Hamid, EP3AR active on 12M. Check 24950 0900-0930Z. QSL via I2MQP.
- FO and ZK, Fr. Polynesia & So. Cook Is.: Dominique, F6EPY will be operating first Mar. 3-16 at different locations-mainly CW.
- H4, Solomon Is.: Bernard, A44MS active on 12M, 24937-24955 starting around 1000Z. On 75M (3799) after 1100Z. QSL via DL2GAC.

See you next month.

de Jordy - W1JK wijk@earthlink.net

Get Your *Zero Beat* Electronically each month

HCRA members can receive their monthly club newsletter in any or all of three ways!

- 1) *First Class Mail, just like you always have. This costs HCRA approximately 75 cents per copy. This is one of the benefits of your membership with HCRA.*
- 2) *E-mail. If you would like to get on our e-mail list, just write eZB@hcra.org from the account that you wish to receive your copy from, and request that you join our list. HCRA respects your privacy and will not under any circumstances give your e-mail address to ANYONE.*
- 3) WWW.HCRA.ORG. *Our new web site carries the latest copies of *Zero Beat*. Just click and read.*

NOTE 1: You will need Adobe Acrobat ® installed on your computer to read electronic copies of *Zero Beat*. Just click the button on the WWW.HCRA.ORG website, and follow the directions to get your FREE copy of Adobe Acrobat ®.

NOTE 2: There is a cost savings to the HCRA if you receive your *Zero Beat* electronically only. If you prefer to NOT receive your newsletter by First Class Mail, please contact John, Kx1x, Dave, KBIMU, or Jim, WA1ZUH to be added to the eZB only list.



*Please Support
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Wear it Proudly!
HCRA Name Badges



Only \$6.00. Available for order at any club meeting, or call or drop an email for immediate service!
Show the world you belong to the oldest club in the Pioneer Valley.

Jim, WA1ZUH: jmullen@rockys.com or (413) 245-3228

What's Happening???

On The Air

Mon., Tues, Thur, Fri	19:00	National Traffic System (NTS) Net	146.94
Sundays	08:45	Western Mass Emergency Net	146.94
Mondays	19:30	HCRA 10m Net	28.375
Wednesdays	19:30	MTARA Info net	146.94 and 147.000 (link)
	20:00	MTARA Swap net	
	20:30	MTARA Tech net	
Thursdays	21:00	Weather Net (ncs K1PAI Roger)	1 st Week of the Month 147.09 Every other week 147.000

Club Meetings & Testing Sessions

1 st Friday of the month	19:30	HCRA Club Meeting	Feeding Hills Congregational Church 21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills
3 rd Friday of the month	19:30	MTARA Club meeting	Red Cross building 506 Cottage St, SPFLD, MA
4 th Friday of the month	18:00	MTARA License Exams	Holyoke Hospital Auditorium Beech St., Holyoke
4 th Sunday of the month	19:00	NOBARC club meeting	Pittsfield MA (146.91 for talk-in)

Please forward additions and suggestions to: Stan Bates, n1inb seb@wca.com (All times Local)



Emergency Coordinator's Corner

Near Future Local Events that
YOU can help with

de KB1MU, Dave Isham



Please note the following Public Service Events:

MTARA Flea market March 11, 2001. volunteers are needed to assist with the flea Market. Contact Ray N1RLX at 413-527-0192

Tour de Cure on June 10, 2001. Contact Ray N1RLX at 413-527-0192

MS Bikeathon on June 10, 2001. This is a 25, 50 and 100 mile event, held in the Bloomfield and Enfield area. Many Hams needed. Contact Dave KB1MU at 413-596-6605 or e-mail at kb1mu@arrl.net.

Volunteers are also needed for the areas premier public service event, the 2001 Boston Marathon. This event involves about 160 hams over a 26 mile course. Communications will be on both 2meter and 440 repeaters for a period of up to 18 hours. If you are interested in participating in this event contact Bob Salow WA1IDA at 508-650-9440 or email walida@mediaone.net.

As you may have noticed, the Emergency Coordinators column has become rather infrequent as of late. I have found that my duties as HCRA Secretary consume most of my available time and the Emergency Coordinator position has suffered as a result. If any of the membership would like to assume the position of Emergency Coordinator, please contact me or any of the HCRA board of directors.

73's and keep those batteries charged, de KB1MU, Dave Isham.

HCRA Sponsors a New Venturing Crew

The Hampden County Radio Association has agreed to sponsor a brand new Venture Crew, which will have a focus on Emergency Preparedness, especially in the communications field.

We are looking for boys and girls, between the ages of 14 to 20 who are interested in learning about emergency communications to join our Crew. The crew's activities will be designed, planned, and implemented by the youth involved, under the advice and counseling of volunteer adults, and may include pedestrian fox hunting, field day, camping, and community service projects, among other worthwhile projects. The program limits depend on the enthusiasm and willingness of those involved.

No license required, but this is a great place to get help getting one!

If you know of anyone interested in joining this group, please contact John, kx1x, at (413) 532-7474 or by e-mail at kx1x@arrl.net.



Venturing is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) through 20 years of age.

Venturing's purpose is to provide positive experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults.

Venturing is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth, adult leaders, and organizations in their communities. Local community organizations establish a Venturing crew by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of exciting and meaningful activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, develop leadership skills, and become good citizens.





Skywarn Notes

de *Eric Tuller* *N1QKO*

Here is the Scheduled SKYWARN class for Springfield for 2001. When other classes are announced, I'll pass along the dates. If you have never been to a class, please consider going. There is good information in this class involving public safety durring severe weather events. If you have not attendend a class an a couple of years, please go and use this class as refresher training.

Tuesday May 1st
West Springfield Town Hall/PD Building Auditorium
26 Central Street
West Springfield, Mass
7-10 PM

A GUIDE FOR REPORTING SEVERE WEATHER

Please report the following:

Tornadoes / funnel clouds (be wary of look alike)
Wall clouds, especially if they are rotating
Any hail (be specific to size) DO NOT USE "MARBLE SIZE" TO DESCRIBE
Winds (40 mph or greater, estimated or recorded)
Damaging gusts (50mph or greater)
Trees / power lines down. Large limbs down
Structural damage to buildings, windows broken
Rainfall: 1 inch or greater in 1 hour, 2 inches or greater storm
total (estimated or recorded in a rain guage)
Flash flooding: Streams / rivers -also when nearing bankfull
Coastal/ street

PROCEDURES for calling into local net

Identify yourself with your call and name

Be BRIEF in your observation ,Include:

WHAT was observed, WHEN it was observed, WHERE it was observed
include direction & distance from a known location

Some things to remember during a net :

When calling from your town. Please specify if in Ma. or Ct.

Don't relay reports that you here on repeaters in other coverage areas

Don't relay information from the WEATHER CHANNEL

Don't relay information you here on a scanner

WE WANT YOUR OBSERVATIONS!

After the storm has passed your location,

DO NOT tell net control the storm has passed. Please stay off the air so that reports east of you can be taken. We don't need a summary of what has already happened. Please remember your safety during severe weather!

De Eric, N1QKO, ASST.SKYWARN COORDINATOR for W.MA.

ORIENTEERING SCHEDULE for NEOC-CT - Spring 2001

These events are sponsored by the NEW ENGLAND ORIENTEERING CLUB.

Instruction and rental compasses are available at each event. For info, call Paul & Sue Pearson 860-745-7457. (PRPearson@AOL.COM)

Most events have courses with difficulty and distance ranging from beginner to advanced levels:

S = String-'O' for young children

W = White = Beginner (1-3 KM)

Y = Yellow = Novice (2-4 KM)

O = Orange = Intermed. (3-5 KM)

G = Green = Advanced (4-5 KM)

R = Red = Advanced (5-7 KM)

Sun 18 March CONNECTICUT COLLEGE NEW LONDON, CT Beginner Event

Registration & interval starts: 10 AM to 1 PM Map: 1:3500, 10 ft Courses: W,Y

Directions: From New London, take Route 32 north to Connecticut College.

Turn east 500 meters north of footbridge on to Benham Ave (in Waterford).

Follow 'O' meet signs to parking on Benham Av. for info: Stuart Sharack 860.442.6914 (Sharack@aol.com)

course setter: Stuart Sharack

Sun 22 April METRO. DIST. COMM. RESERVOIR #5 WEST HARTFORD, CT

Registration & interval starts: 10 AM to 1 PM Map: 1:10000, 5 m Courses: S,W,Y,O,R

Directions: From I-84, take exit 39 to Rte 4. Go east on Rte 4 for 2 mi. to MDC gate. Follow 'O' meet signs for 0.5 mi. to parking lot.

for info: Paul Pearson 860.745.7457 (PRPearson@AOL.COM) course setter: Steve Wood 860.231.8961

Sat April 28 MASHAMOQUET BROOK STATE PARK POMFRET CENTER, CT

Registration & Starts: **10:00 AM. to 12 noon.** Map: NEW! 1:10000 scale, 2.5m Courses: S,W,Y,O,G,R.

Directions: From Interstate 84 in CT, Exit 69 to CT Route 74 east to US Route 44 east.

Approximately 13 miles and follow Orienteering signs. From Interstate 395, Exit 93 to CT Route 101 west to Route 44 west.

Follow Orienteering signs to parking.

Contact: Joanne Sankus 781.938.1740 (jsankus@aol.com) course setter: Clinton Morse (clinton.morse@uconn.edu)

Sun April 29 MASHAMOQUET BROOK STATE PARK POMFRET CENTER, CT

Registration: 9 AM to 10 AM (Wolf Den campground) Mass start: 10:30 AM

Courses: Short, Med., Long (western MA rules, 2.5 hr limit)

Contact: Joanne Sankus 781.938.1740 (jsankus@aol.com) course setter: Clinton Morse (clinton.morse@uconn.edu)

Sat 5 May METRO. DIST. COMM. RESERVOIR #5 WEST HARTFORD, CT Beginner Event

USOF - National Orienteering Day event and MDC - Recreation Discovery Day at W.H. reservoir

Registration & interval starts: 10 AM to 12 noon Map: 1:10000, 5 m Courses: W,Y,O (Try-O)

Directions : From I-84, take exit 39 to Rte 4. Go east on Rte 4 for 2 mi. to MDC gate. Follow 'O' meet signs for 0.5 mi. to parking lot.

for info: Paul Pearson 860.745.7457 (PRPearson@AOL.COM)

Sun 20 May HURD STATE PARK EAST HAMPTON, CT

Registration & interval starts: 10 AM to 1 PM Map: 1:9600, 10 ft Courses: S, W, Y, O, G, R

Directions : From Rte 9 in Middletown, take Rte 66 east to Cobalt OR from Rte 2 in Marlborough, take Rte 66 west to Cobalt.

From Cobalt, take Rte 151 south for 3 miles to Hurd Park. Follow signs to ballfield.

for info: Gerard Weatherby 860.267.6303 (gerardw@alum.mit.edu)& Julie Weatherby 860.267.6303 (clarify@alum.mit.edu)

Sun 3 June GAY CITY STATE PARK HEBRON, CT

Registration & interval starts: 10 AM to 12 noon Map: 1:10000, 5 m Courses: W,Y,O CT Trails Day event for beginners

Note: Park entrance fee is \$5 (CT) or \$8 (out of state) per car. Carpooling is advised.

Directions : From I-84E, take exit 59 to Rte 384 and take exit 5 in Bolton to Rte 85 S to park entrance in Hebron.

for info: Dave Boone 860.228.3875 course setter: Jon Howes 860.529.3184 (jhhiker@snet.net)

For information on orienteering, please visit these web sites:

What is Orienteering?

www.williams.edu:803/Biology/orienteering/o-index.html

Orienteering in western MA (and CT)

www.the-spa.com/Tony.Maniscalco

New England Orienteering Club-CT

www.ctnow.com/Groups-NEOCCT

New England Orienteering Club

www.tiac.net/users/cohen/neoc

United States Orienteering Federation

www.us.orienteering.org

HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION

HCRA Board of directors Meeting – February 8, 2001

Held at Elizabeth Buller's home

Present: Jim WA1ZUH, Jorty W1JK, Greg N1AEH, Dave KB1MU, John KX1X, Irv K6IS, Betty KB1CPZ, and Stan N1INB

Member Reports:

Vice President Raffle Results for Feb meeting netted \$89.00, This amount more than covers the cost for the meeting room. This is the goal of the monthly raffle. There was a discussion on the value and type of raffle prizes It was agreed that about \$50.00 was a good value for prizes. It was also agreed that the prizes must be of a general nature, something most hams would like. Prizes like software are not a good prize, since they appeal to only those hams who are interested in that facet of radio and have a computer.

Treasurer: Financial Report Our current balance is \$3477.00. The treasury balance as of late has been the highest in the recent history of the club. This will give the club the opportunity to start projects not even considered in the past.

Secretary: Dave KB1MU will send a copy of the latest club database, to include e-mail address, to Jim KK1W. This will allow Jim to make general mailings to club members. Dave has agreed to remain in the Emergency Coordinator position. The Board will attempt to find a volunteer to assume this position..
The current membership stands at 92, this includes four family members.

Program: We have speakers lined up for the remainder of the year. March speaker, Steve Ford on PSK31 and other digital modes. April Wayne Miller from the ARRL. May Chet W1HGJ and Larry N1URE. June will be election of officers and the tailgate Party.

Zero Beat: Feb 23 is the deadline for ZeroBeat articles. John KX1X will provide the secretary with a listing of members receiving ZeroBeat by e-mail. This will allow updating of mailing labels in the club database. The e-mail version of ZeroBeat has been well accepted. John has made an appeal to the membership for ZeroBeat articles.

Membership: Betty KB1CPZ has been provided with a list of former members. She will be sending an informational mailing .to these people.

At large: Les K1DNX was not present so progress of W1NY QSL cards was not discussed..

Technical: Stan N1INB agreed to supervise the operation of the "swap table" at the meetings. The board suggested a donation of 10% of the selling price for items sold on the swap table.

Old Business

Field Day. A proposed site was discussed, and Jorty W1JK will attempt to reserve this site. The Board would like input from the general membership as to goals for the 2001 Field Day Operation. The board questioned if a joint field day operation was best for the club. They appeared to be evenly divided on this issue. It was unanimously agreed that the membership was in favor of this joint operation.

Input from the general membership is encouraged on this item. The board is also looking for persons to serve on the field day committee.

The purchase of a Bulletin Board was canceled. The Bulletin Board would be a storage problem and of questionable value. The board agree to sponsor an ATV repeater to be installed at a local location. This repeater is a joint effort of Chet W1HGJ and Larry N1URE. The board offered the use of the W1NY call if desired..

A roster with members phone numbers will be generated and distributed to board members via e-mail.

A roster has been forwarded to Larry N1URE for inclusion on the club web site. This listing will not contain members telephone numbers or e-mail address.

New Business: Jorty W1JK has agreed to chair the June tailgate party. There will be a charge of \$5.00 for each vendor. This event will require publicity to succeed.

The PA system for use at meetings has been purchased. It contains both a wireless mike and a wired mike. The PA output is 45 watts. However currently we have no speakers for the system. If any members have some speakers that are appropriate, the donation would be appreciated. Otherwise the club will purchase speakers.

The board is looking for photos taken during the most recent Hall of Fame operation. These will be used for a Hall of Fame section of the HCRA web site.

It was agreed to again participate in the Big-E special event station. Wednesday was chosen for the HCRA day. Since there are two Wednesday's during the event, a final decision as to which one will be HCRA day is needed.

In conclusion, The Hampden County Radio Association appears to be in the midst of a really successful year. This is a result of contribution by the members of the club. The Board of Directors wished to thank the membership for this enthusiastic participation.

Thank you!

Respectfully submitted by Dave Isham KB1MU.

The next meeting of the
Hampden County Radio Association
Will be on Friday

March 2nd, 2001

At 7:30 p.m. at the
Feeding Hills Congregational Church

Doors open at 7:00 PM

Hope to see you there!

In case of inclement weather, tune to TV Channels 22 or 40, or on the
146.94 and 147.105 repeaters.

Meeting cancellation information will be given out by 6:00 PM.

HCRA

P.O. Box 562

Agawam, Massachusetts

01001

PLEASE HAND CANCEL

PSK 31

A presentation by

Steve Ford, WB8IMY

This Friday, March 2nd, 2001