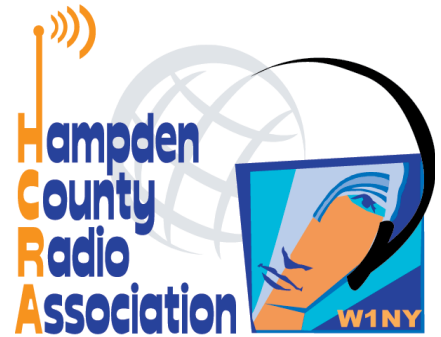


May 2010

# Zero Beat

www.hcra.org



## From the Shack...

Elections are just around the corner.

Last month we shook up a few of our members and hopefully got them out of the "Armchair Amateur" group and back into the hobby. Now's your chance to really make a difference - become a part of the HCRA Board of Directors. June marks the month for our club's annual elections and we're looking for some interested amateurs to shape our venerable radio club for the future. In addition to DXCC, contests and EMCOMM we also need some leadership in SDR, Twitter and WSPR. Are you ready and willing to raise your hand and steer HCRA toward the future?

Elsewhere in this issue is a proposed slate of officers for our next season. Looking closely you will see a lot of new faces on the list. This year many of your present board members have too many outside forces to allow them to focus on HCRA in the manner they prefer. The good news is we have filled most of the positions with both new and old but most of all active and excited amateurs. There is still room for more and if anyone out there feels they would like to run for any board position please get your name into the hat. Everyone is welcome, more candidates is a good indicator of the strength of our club.

I would like to take a moment to thank George/KC1V, Irv/W6IS, Jim/K1JAW and Mike/KB1PKJ for their contributions over the years they have been on the board. We wouldn't be where we are today without their dedication and commitment to HCRA. Thanks guys!

### Field Day

As planning continues for Field Day we need to get a handle on who desires to pitch in for this year's event. We will be passing around a sign-up sheet at the meeting to collect this information. If you have a desire to help with setup/takedown, operate, captain a station, greet the public, run a GOTA station or just about anything else

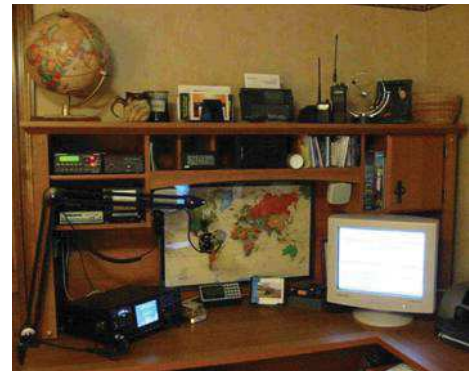
now's your chance to get on the list. You can see where we stand as of this writing by pointing your browser to: <http://www.hcra.org/fd2010.htm>. Things are changing rapidly and Dufresne Park certainly has room for everyone.

Alternative power, GOTA, VHF/UHF, public service, traffic handling - you want to do it, we can accommodate you!

New at Field Day this year will be a lunch that is open to all club members and field day helpers. We're still working on the details but the expectation is lunch is on us between the hours of 12 noon and 3 PM on Saturday, June 26th. Our cooks will be serving up dogs & burgers with all the fixin's and some cold soft drinks to wash them down. Want to make it an extra special occasion? Why not bring your favorite salad or dessert to wow the crowd! Can you think of a better afternoon? Amateur radio and a picnic all rolled into one. It's HCRA's way of saying thanks for your support of the club all year. And as they say on six-o'clock news, "more to come at 11" - stay tuned.

### White Elephant Table

Last month's meeting featured the unveiling of the HCRA 'White Elephant Table'. The brain child of Jim/K1JAW was well received by all. We had a few growing pains but they didn't interfere with folks having fun and leaving the meeting with something new and different to play with in their shack. The rules are simple. Do you have something you want to swap? Bring it along and leave it on the table. See something you would like instead, pick it up and take it home (but please, only if you've brought something). Not in the mood to add, but just subtract from your stuff? Drop the item on the table and put one of the available 'HCRA Donation' stickers on it. There's a spot on the label for a suggested value and call - fill out as you desire. At the end of the meeting if your 'swap' item is still there we ask you please take back home. HCRA



# HCRA Board of Directors Minutes

Wednesday March 17th, 2010

Attendees : Irv Slitzky W6IS, George Collins KC1V, Michael Lavery KB1PKJ, Jim Mullen KK1W, Jim Whitehouse K1JAW, Ed LaCombe KB1NWH , Larry Krainson WB1DBY, Dave Cain AA1YW

Couldn't make it :John Pise KX1X

Meeting called to order at 6:59 pm, at Hampden Bank in Longmeadow, MA.

## Officer Reports

### 1. Treasurer - George Collins KC1V

- i. Current member count - 85
- ii. Club Balance - \$5283.89

### 2. Secretary – Michael Lavery KB1PKJ

(a) Board reviewed February minutes as submitted by KB1NWH. Motion to accept minutes – Irv, seconded by Dave. Board voted to accept minutes. Vote was unanimously accepted. Minutes will be sent to Larry and entered into ZB for January Issue.

(b) Action item – File by-laws with Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

(c) Action item – Check with MassMutual Learning Center (MMLC) about holding the BOD meeting there.

3. Tech report – Dave Cain AA1YW  
Norm in Otis, MA – group of club volunteers to spend a day setting up station  
WA1GXY – Phil Gorman . Antenna work.  
R7 Vertical antenna donation – A1WLC.

### 4. Zero Beat Editor – Larry Krainson WB1DBY

(a) Submit articles to Larry by Mar. 23rd

### 5. Membership – Ed LaCombe KB1NWH

- (a) Let the record show there were no new members, one renewal.
- (b) Breakfast gathering – 9 a.m. IHOP West Springfield Apr. 3rd.
- (c) Boxboro Van – 1 van, 15 passengers.

### 6. At Large – Irv Slitzky W6IS

- (a) Kitchen is off-limits during the meeting. We do not rent the kitchen portion.
- (b) Field Day – suggestion to have one free meal (hot dogs + hamburgers)

### 7. Program – Jim Whitehouse K1JAW

- (a) Contests section – upcoming in a future issue of ZB.
- (b) Show & Tell – good participation. Popularity vote was good.

## Old Business

WB1Z Plaque discussion – tabled until next meeting

Rookie Roundup – April 18th, 2-8 p.m.

## New Business

Election planning

Possible BOD meeting locations

Tailgate party June 4th – cooking (George and Jim).

Summer Picnic – tabled until next month

Respectfully submitted on this date – April 5th, 2010 – Michael S. Lavery



## The ARRL New England Convention

*at the Holiday Inn in Boxborough, Massachusetts*

**AUGUST 26-27-28-29, 2010**

Every two years during even numbered years the New England Convention Aka Boxboro is held. This has been going on for a long time as many of us know. Now that 2010 is here, it's a Boxboro year!

You need to make time to attend! The sunspot cycle is on the upswing, more DX is coming in; more exciting HF contacts are to be made. To do that you need to listen in on a seminar for the latest techniques, maybe upgrade and buy some new gear, string out those antennas; talk with the big name reps. Boxboro is about 80 minutes from the Springfield area. But if you don't feel like driving, take the HCRA van instead. Let someone else do the driving while you sit back and chat with the others. Enjoy a nice sit down dinner (tbd where) on the way home. It's a fun and exciting trip and not to be missed!

At this time we have the following:

1. KK1W
2. AA1YW
3. W6IS
4. KB1PKJ
5. KC1V
6. W1MSN
7. KB1NWH
8. W1MJB
9. your name here?

That's about half the van, so it is filling fast so make your reservations now.

When: Saturday, August 28th.

Cost per person: \$30

The fare includes your ticket into the convention,  
Chauffeured round trip van transportation.

E-mail [KB1NWH@ARRL.NET](mailto:KB1NWH@ARRL.NET) or see him at the HCRA meetings!

73

Ed, KB1NWH

## Goldfarb Award (by Marty Bowen W1MJB)

This April, the ARRL Foundation Board of Directors voted to award the prestigious William R. Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship to Kyle Ebersold, KB1MNN, of Holland, Massachusetts. Kyle, a senior and honor roll student at Tantasqua Regional High School in Fiskdale, MA will graduate in June with a cumulative GPA of 4.31. In addition to his academic achievements, Kyle has served as Editor-In-Chief of the school newspaper, The Tomahawk, performed with the school's A Capella chamber choir - the Choraleers - and been inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society. He plans to attend Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island as a candidate for a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Kyle's interest in amateur radio began in December 2004 when he an SWL radio as a Christmas gift. "When I brought it to show my grandfather, now KB1MNO, he told me how he had been a ham operator back in the '60s with a novice license as WN1MRA. After hearing his stories, I decided I might find the hobby interesting," said Kyle. This wonderful gift, coupled with stories told by his grandfather John Ebersold, inspired Kyle to study to obtain an amateur radio license. Coincidentally, Kyle's interest in amateur radio rekindled Grandfather John's interest and they both earned their Technician class licenses in August 2005. John Ebersold went on to upgrade to a General class license in October 2005 and Kyle earned his General ticket the following month. "I believe I was one of the last General licensees to need to pass the code requirement as well before that was changed", Kyle said.



Initially Kyle had no radio station of his own, that is until that November when he and his grandfather attended the HCRA auction and



Kyle went home with an Icom 751A. The Icom, once a prized possession of K1GIU, now a silent key, whose estate bequeathed his radio equipment to the HCRA for

auction, now had a new owner. "The members of the HCRA really helped me the most by allowing me the opportunity to get started as a youth operator through the ICOM I bought at their auction in November 2005. I have attended almost yearly since then and I will never forget the night that I bought the 751A. I remember standing along the side of the room and calmly bidding my way along with two or three other hams until the bids came down to a trickle. I wasn't going to give up by any means though and I was overjoyed when Jim (who I believe was the auctioneer) declared me the winning bidder. That rig was the first physical necessity for me to have for the hobby and it is still the cornerstone of my involvement in ham radio today." Kyle, after a trip with his granddad to Lentinini Communications in Newington, Connecticut for a power supply, antenna tuner, G5RV dipole, a length of coax and various other goodies had the makings for a first class amateur radio station. "I did a lot of rag chewing up until the IARU HF World Championships in July 2006. I decided at that point that I wanted to try contesting and I went all out for it, working all 24 hours of the contest (or more like 22ish seeing how I fell asleep around 6:00 am and woke up around 7:30, a half hour before it ended). I found that contest to be tremendous

## Continued from Page 1

donated items will be put in the box and be recycled next month. Hey, everything deserves a second chance, right?

### HCRA Breakfast Bash!

Last month we had our first HCRA Saturday morning breakfast. Fourteen members and their friends descended on IHOP in West Springfield for a great time, good food and lots of conversation with friends. Did you miss it? Well we will be doing it again on May 8th (the Saturday after the meeting). Ed, KB1NWH is your breakfast host and he's working hard right now to find a different spot for this month. It is our hope to make this a monthly event (always on the Saturday after the meeting) and to move it around the area to make it convenient for all. Have any suggestions of a great breakfast place that can handle 12 to 20 people. Contact Ed and let him know about it.

### HCRA Mailing List

Our mailing list is one of the most valuable resources we have to offer. The list is over 100 people strong and growing. By utilizing the mailing list you can do so many things. Use it as a bulletin board to arrange getting

## Zero Beat Contributions

Anything of interest is welcome. This is YOUR Newsletter. It's not interesting without YOUR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS.

Please submit your ideas, articles and more to:  
[wb1dby@comcast.net](mailto:wb1dby@comcast.net)

together for breakfasts and flea markets. Ask for technical help or list items to sell, swap or buy. Post some hot DX you just heard on the bands, or better yet let everyone know about band openings. As a club we use the mailing list to keep you informed of club activities, cancellations and events. It's free, has no spam and is as handy as the in-box on your computer. Most of you are members already but to get the full effect of the list you need to participate. Let us know what you're doing or if you need help with something. Respond to requests and give your opinion. Relate your success and let us learn from your failures. By sharing information we all become better amateur radio operators.

Not a member of the mailing list? Sign up information can be found at: [http://www.hcra.org/mailling\\_list.htm](http://www.hcra.org/mailling_list.htm). Let's take full advantage of one of HCRA's best resources, our members and everything they know!

### Jose/N1BAA is May's guest speaker

Back by popular demand this month is N1BAA, one of the areas most active hams. Jose is an avid contester but beyond that he is one of the most dynamic amateurs in the Pioneer Valley. N1BAA will be talking tonight about the excitement of amateur radio and help you get more out of your hobby. Jose will also show us how to get the most out of a fantastic (and free) logging program called DXlabs. You won't want to miss his tips and tricks on the subject. From contesting to erecting towers to helping out other hams it's hard to believe he has time for work on top of it all. I'll tell you one thing, N1BAA is NOT a member of "Armchair Amateurs" and you won't be either after tonight's meeting!

### June is Tail Gate Party time!

Our annual Tail Gate Party returns with a little twist this year. Yes, the usual spots will be available for \$5. There will be a club donation table for those items you're ashamed to put on your tailgate. You'll see some friends you haven't seen since last year. The weather will be good (isn't it always). So what's different?

HOT DOGS and soft drinks! Yahoo!!! Once again, and thanks to Jack, Jim and George, we will be serving up steamed dogs and buns and some soda to go along with them - the perfect treat for a warm June evening. Now aren't your taste buds screaming already? Put aside some gear for the party, stuff some cash in your pocket and come on down for around 6:00 (that's when the fun begins). After the tail gate party we will adjourn to the meeting hall for our annual elections, field day planning AND a mystery guest. This is our last meeting of the year and you won't want to miss it.

'73... see you at the meeting,  
Jim, KK1W



# 2010/2011 Election

It is with great pride we present the following slate of proposed officers for the 2010/2011 Elections. Approval of this slate will be at the June 4th club meeting.

There is still time to toss your hat in the ring. Although all but one position is filled there are a few board members that could be 'convinced' to step aside and let some new ham have a hand in guiding our club. If you feel you have something to contribute to HCRA please contact the board before June 1st.

Now on to the slate:

## 2010/2011 Slate of Proposed Officers & Directors

### OFFICERS:

Position

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

### DIRECTORS:

Editor

Technical

Membership

At Large

Program

Officers:

Jim Mullen, KK1W

John Pise, Kx1x

Dave Cain, AA1YW

Marty Bowen, W1MJB

Larry Krainson, WB1DBY

Ed LaCombe, KB1NWH

Matt Wilhelm, W1MSW

Frandy Johnson, N1FJ

open

Thanks to all of the above that have volunteered their time for the betterment of HCRA and its members. Without hams like you our club would not be as strong, active or fun as it is today.

## Goldfarb Award Continued...

fun though and the QSL card influx was amazing. Contests also helped get me really close to my goal of achieving WAS (I just need Alaska now, I got Hawaii in the contest last July!), and I believe I'm one Australian QSO away from WAC." Kyle also participated in the November sweepstakes, ARRL Field DAY and a number of QSO parties. In addition to contesting, he is an active member of several Amateur Radio organizations, including the ARRL, the Hampden County Radio Association, and FISTS CW Club. That's right folks, Kyle is one of us, a proud member of the Hampden County Radio Association. He can be found on the bands operating SSB, CW and PSK31. He is also a young man with dreams and the drive to always let his reach exceed his grasp. "I came to apply for the Goldfarb Scholarship after seeing it for a couple years in QST. I have been a youth ARRL member since 2005 I believe. (I particularly enjoy the unique contesting information that ARRL provides for its members via its web site.) I had always intended to apply for scholarships from the ARRL Foundation and so when I started looking this year for ones to apply for I certainly thought of those as necessary to include as well. When I did apply for them though I thought that I would perhaps get a few of the smaller awards; I never thought that the one unique extra application for the Goldfarb Scholarship would amount to anything in my case". But that extra effort, that extra application did amount to a whole lot "I received an e-mail from Tom Comstock at the Foundation stating that he had a few questions about my application and would like to speak to me and my parents when we were all together. A few days later he did call us but when he spoke to me I vividly remember him saying, "Well, I really don't have any further questions Kyle, I just wanted to be the first to let you know that you are the winner of the Goldfarb award for this year...." I was completely thrilled and at the same time wholesomely taken aback that the Foundation had chosen me as the winner. It

was overwhelming because I knew the immense meaning of what winning the Goldfarb award meant for myself as an amateur operator and also how much it would help me and my family be able to afford my attendance at Bryant University next year. My parents were both thrilled as well, and in particular my dad as he has always been the one to look strictly at the financial picture and probability of my future attendance there". So there you have it, local boy make good proving that with hard work and effort does have its own reward in this case, the prestigious ARRL foundation Goldfarb award.

The Goldfarb Scholarship is funded by an endowment from the late William Goldfarb, N2ITP. Prior to his death in 1997, Goldfarb created a scholastic endowment in memory of his parents, Albert and Dorothy Goldfarb. The scholarship, designed to assist the recipient to finance a four-year undergraduate degree in science; engineering, medicine or business, is awarded to one high school senior each year. The candidates for the generous Goldfarb award are required to demonstrate academic excellence, and a significant involvement with Amateur Radio and community service, in addition to financial need. As the seventh Goldfarb Scholarship winner, Kyle will continue the tradition of prior recipients, as having demonstrated superior academic performance, outstanding determination and leadership as well as extraordinary Amateur Radio and community service.

Information on the Goldfarb Scholarship is available on the ARRL Website. The applications process for the Goldfarb Scholarship and other ARRL Foundation Scholarships commences each year on October 1 and concludes the following February 1 for the academic year starting that September.

## Rookie Round Up Report

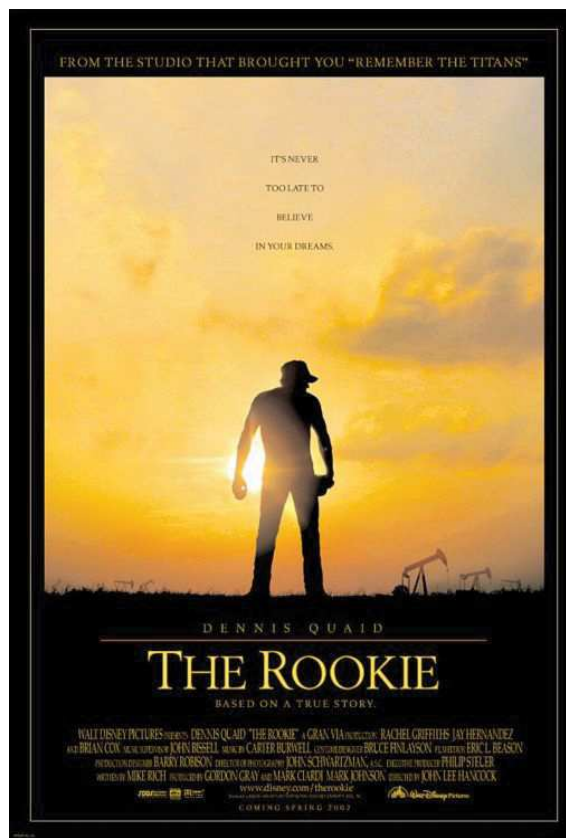
Amateur radio contesting...How can that be any fun? That's the question I would ask myself when I saw an article on the subject. Then, last December, in an effort to get some HF experience I half-heartedly participated in the ARRL 10 meter contest. It was my first time on HF and, mostly due to poor band conditions, I only made a few contacts. It was fun, but I was still pretty timid on the radio. The next month, I participated in the VHF contest while finishing up my Rockmite project at Jim, KK1W's QTH. I was still a bit timid and while not completely sold on contesting, I found myself becoming obsessed with obtaining "just a few more points" before calling it quits for the evening. Before I knew it, three more hours had passed. Ahh, the hook had sunk a little deeper. Just after the VHF contest, Jim invited me the February Yankee Clippers Contest Club meeting in Sturbridge, MA and that is where I first heard murmurs of the ARRL Rookie Roundup contest.

I have to admit, the term "Rookie Roundup" sounded more like a sports draft event than an amateur radio event. However, the more I heard and read, the more interested I became. Here are the basics: The contest is geared towards more recently licensed operators to help them develop their operating skills in a structured event. It is also an excellent opportunity for more experienced operators to help mentor the rookies by opening up their typically more evolved stations, as well as provide contacts for the contestants. The rules are simple: the event is one day only and lasts just six hours from 2pm to 8pm. To participate as a rookie you had to be licensed within the last three years (2010, 2009 or 2008). The exchange consisted of your first name, the year you were first

licensed and the state from which you are operating. All HF bands minus WARC were available to use with rookie contact worth one point, non-rookie contacts worth two points and each new state was a multiplier.

At first I was planning to operate at home, but when I heard no one had accepted any of the offers from HCRA non-rookies to use their stations, I took Jim, KK1W up on his offer. I arrived a couple of hours before the contest started and we worked on tuning the multi-band vertical in the backyard. How cool is that? I haven't even started the contest and I'm learning how to tune a multi-band vertical using an antenna analyzer. The day was looking good. As the contest drew near, Jim gave me the run down on the new shack setup. Eric, KB1JVI, also showed up right before the contest to borrow a part from Jim and stayed for a while to show his support. The game plan was to work 20 meters most of the day and then move down to 40 meters for the last couple hours depending on band conditions and then maybe spend a short stint on 80 meters at the end to clean up some of the local states. Two o'clock arrived and it was time to get started. I decided to search

and pounce a bit to warm up. I made a few contacts and then decided to park it and start calling CQ. That was successful and I noticed that I was starting to get awfully busy. PILEUP!!! I'd been spotted on the packet cluster. Callsigns were coming out of the speaker like water pouring over a waterfall. Suddenly two hours were gone from the contest. Things slowed up for a bit and I decided to search and pounce some more. That's when I had a QSO with an operator who I would later find out was some serious competition. Now she might be a rookie and she might be in 4th grade, but don't





**Backyard Picnic Table QRP  
on a sunny and warm  
weekend afternoon recently.**



Armed with a borrowed Elecraft K1 (Thanks to Marc, K1MZ), a battery from a old UPS, headphones, my Palm Paddle, paper & pen and my Buddipole. I set up on the picnic table in the backyard and worked 2 cw stations with 5 watts in VA....The K1 has 4 bands, built in tuner and is mighty small and light weight. It will run on 8 AA batteries. I want one! 73 from Larry, WB1DBY



## Rookie Roundup Continued...

let the cute smile fool you, W0ANT ([www.qrz.com/db/w0ant](http://www.qrz.com/db/w0ant)) is one serious operator. She had a lot of stations answering her, so I decided to park on a frequency close by and continue calling CQ in hopes that when people were done answering her (or tired of waiting) they would contact me. It seemed to work because the contacts started rolling in again. Suddenly five hours had disappeared and I hadn't moved from the chair. I switched over to 40 meters and then to 80 to pick up a few more multipliers. After everything was said and done I had 68 rookie QSOs, 168 non-rookie QSOs and 42 multipliers for a total score of 12464 putting me in 1st place for the 1st District. There was no official nationwide results, but I can tell you I had the second highest score, right behind...you guessed it...W0ANT!

Overall the contest was a blast. There were a few software glitches with the score reporting on [getscores.org](http://getscores.org), but I'm sure those will all be worked out by the next contest and in the end the organizers were able to circumvent the problem. My operating skills improved dramatically during the contest. I was tongue-tied in the beginning, but the second half was much smoother. I also thought the inclusion of the first name in the exchange helped to personalize the contest and although it's obviously not something for a "real" contest, it worked well for an event geared towards new hams. There will be two more Rookie Roundups in 2010—another SSB contest in August and CW in December. Next year RTTY will take over the August SSB contest. I can't begin to tell you how much fun I had. I think the best part was getting my first QSL cards in the mail after the contest with nice notes of congratulations and well wishes in the hobby. I hope all of you—rookies and non-rookies alike—try to participate in this fun event later in the year.

Matt/W1MSW

# IRLP Update

## by, John, KX1X

After being down for almost a year, and thanks to George, KC1V's donation of a computer, the IRLP node 7270 in South Hadley is back on-the-air. I was also able to adjust the audio, and find the ground loop that was causing a loud buzz on the audio output of the node.

The IRLP node is sponsored by the HCRA, but use of the node is open to all licensed amateurs regardless of club affiliation. We encourage the use of the IRLP node, especially with new hams, to get the most out of this great hobby.

The IRLP node listens quietly on 146.460 Mhz (PL 123.0). This is a simplex machine (no repeater offset). Do not 'kerchunk' the node and expect to hear a courtesy tone in response, like you might from a repeater. Please also remember that, even though you are just pushing numbers on your keypad, that you **MUST** identify these transmissions. Please get into the habit of announcing your callsign before opening the node. The IRLP node also transmits a 123.0hz PL tone, so you can use the TSQ function of your radio with IRLP.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW PL TONE: 123.0  
There is a repeater in NY that listens on 146.46 with PL 114.8, and when there is enhanced propagation the IRLP node interferes with that repeater and vice-versa.

If after setting up your frequency and PL tone, you would like to try a test, and get a response from the IRLP, you can (first identify, then) try pressing \*511 which should respond with the time and identify the node.

The antenna is a 2m Ringo Ranger only up 25'. The power is currently set to 25w due to a power supply problem, but if you can hear it, you can work it. The node has good ears to the West/Northwest (Westfield, West Springfield, to Northampton) and East (Ludlow, Palmer, Brimfield).

For more details on how to access and use the IRLP node, please see:

<http://www.hcra.org/irlp.htm>

Please solicit and forward any audio comments to: [kx1x@arrl.net](mailto:kx1x@arrl.net)

One of the hardest things to do is to tweak the outgoing audio, I have to rely on critique from remote stations.

Thanks, and have fun!

'73 de Kx1x

## Upcoming Flea Markets

8 May Rensselaer NY EGARA @FireCo  
Thomas KC2FCP 518 272 1494 A

15 May Halifax NS H+DARC @Forum \$4@9  
S@7 Tom VE1BMJ R+

16 May Cambridge MA FLEA at MIT  
Nick 617 253 3776

22 May Goshen CT SoBARC @FG \$3@8  
Lee K1LEE 860 435 0051

29 May Vernon CT NARC @TollandAgCtr  
Wayne N1GUS 860 487 1921 A+

30 May Sorel-Tracy CRAS-T \$5@9 \$15/T@6  
Luc VE2DWE 450 743 8676 W+

4 Jun Feeding Hills MA HCRA Tail Gate @Con-  
gCh @6:30PM Jim KK1W 413 245 3228 +

# 114TH Boston Marathon Patriots Day April 19 2010

HCRA members join W/MA ARES & MTARA amateur radio operators providing race communications on the route covering 3 miles of the race in Newton.

This year our group provided radio communications for:

- 3 Am.Red Cross First Aid stations.
- 1 joint ARC & federal Disaster Assistance Team station
- 3 water stops.

Departing from Palmer @ 6:00 am Our group of hams carpooled to a very early meeting in Newton. Proceeded to stations Checking into assigned repeaters' Some 12 repeaters where in use throughout the race from Hopkington to Boston.

ARC First Aid stations are assigned three operators One each assigned to "away teams" Team responds to reports of runners or spectators in need of medical assistance.

Each team assigned a radio operator to the station mgr.to maintain a link to away teams and net control Amateur radio Communications also used to call for an ambulance or additional medical assistance when required. Operators @ water stops act as eyes on the race looking for runners in need of help as well as any logistical messages the station may request sent. In most cases HT's with extended antennas are suitable for reaching repeaters in your area with a clear signal. Extra batteries A must .Extra HT a good idea

Weather was nearly ideal for runners 50 55 dg. Not bad for volunteers. The need for medical assistance was light compared to other years. However a number of runners & spectators required hospital care.

That's the work,well appreciated by the runners.

The fun is being a witness to 26000 souls /soles running by your location.

Starting with Wheelie's"wheel chair participants The International Elite runners come next followed by the thundering herd. 2-3 hrs of humanity on the run.You can't really explain it.

You must experience it.Ask any of the following.

1. DAVE KB1MU
2. ED KB1NWH
3. FRANDY N1FJ
4. ERIC N1QKO
5. MARY N1TOY
6. RICH N1KXR
7. CHUCK KB1QZZ
8. JOHN W1JWN
9. ERIC KB1JVI
- 10.DON W1DRT
11. JOHN K1VOI
- 12.CHRIS K1CPS

73/TOM de N1MUV

Meeting Location:  
Feeding Hills  
Congregational Church  
21 North Westfield Street  
Feeding Hills, MA 01030



**Next Meeting:**  
**Guest Speaker:**  
**Jose, NIBAA**  
**Friday, May 7, 2010**  
**7:30pm**

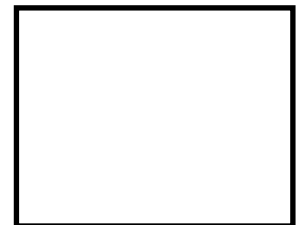
Are you ready to Fox Hunt?

**Jim, K1JAW has passed over the reigns to the HCRA fox box to me. It needs a little work and then it'll be ready to skunk you hunters!**

**Are you interested in a "on foot" fox hunt? We had a few in past years and are going to start them up again if there is interest. BUT, I need to hear from you. So please email me at: [wb1dby@comcast.net](mailto:wb1dby@comcast.net) if you are interested in participating. How about you Venture Crew DX'ers? Are you up to the challenge?**



The Hampden County Radio Association  
P.O Box 562  
Agawam, MA 01001



PLEASE HAND CANCEL