



ZERO BEAT

Meeting Update!

The Holyoke Hospital has opened their meeting room to us once again. Beginning in September in-person meeting's are back!

Need directions?

www.hcra.org/meeting-location/

Welcome New Members

No New Members this Month

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Our 74th Year as a Club!

November 2022

From the editor,

November marks the return of the HCRA annual auction after a nearly 10 year absence! Auction off your unused ham gear at the auction. Details

If you're not sure of the exact auction location at the hospital please visit this link: hcra.org/meeting-location for directions, It's just off Rte.91 in Holyoke.

I hope everyone attends this fun filled event. Show your support for the HCRA by coming to the November auction! Come to sell, buy, or watch, but be there!

This issue features another article by Bill, W1FMX, who wrote another interesting article that features an easy to build add-on kit for the Alexloop antenna that was featured in the May issue of Zero Beat beginning on page 7.

Just in time for your Holiday shopping is a refresher on using Amazon Smile where everything you buy give back to your club in a small percentage which adds up very quickly! It's easy and takes no extra effort once it is setup. More on page b of this issue.

Do you have a submission for Zero Beat? Please email it to kd1ku@arrl.net. Don't forget the 10 meter net is every Monday at 7pm now that we're back to the winter schedule. I hope to see everyone at the November auction, in-person!

73, Ken - KD1KU

November 4th Meeting

The HCRA Auction is Back!

November marks the return of the HCRA auction! Doors open at 7 pm, auction begins at 7:30. Whatever you do, don't miss the return of the HCRA auction! Need directions? Click: <http://www.hcra.org/meeting-location/>

Octobers guest speaker was Rockwell, WW1X, who presented a very interesting discussion about Remote Ham Radio. If you missed it check out the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGdN3v0dvzk>

Past meeting videos can be viewed at <http://www.hcra.org/category/videos/> or on the HCRA YouTube Channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/HampdenCountyRA>

Upcoming Meetings and Guest Speakers

 <p>September 2022</p>	<p>Tim Duffy, K3LR will be our September guest speaker. Tim is from the K3LR SuperStation in West Middlesex, PA. Don't miss his presentation!</p>
 <p>OCTOBER 2022</p>	<p>This month's guest speaker is Rockwell, WW1X, who will be presenting and demonstrating Remote Ham Radio in-person from the Holyoke Hospital</p>
 <p>November 2022</p>	<p>HCRA's Annual Auction is Back at the November Meeting! Ham Radio Gear and Related Accessories ONLY! NO Computers, Monitors or PC Parts!</p>
 <p>DECEMBER 2022</p>	<p>The Annual HCRA Holiday Party at The Steaming Tender Restaurant Dec 5th. Join us for a Night of Great Food and Fun with your Fellow Hams. (details subject to change)</p>
 <p>JANUARY 2023</p>	<p>Guest Speaker To Be Announced</p>
 <p>FEBRUARY 2023</p>	<p>Guest Speaker To Be Announced</p>
 <p>MARCH 2023</p>	<p>Guest Speaker To Be Announced</p>
 <p>April 2023</p>	<p>Guest Speaker To Be Announced</p>
 <p>MAY 2023</p>	<p>Guest Speaker To Be Announced</p>
 <p>JUNE 2023</p>	<p>Elections, Field Day Prep and More. Please Consider Running for a Board Position, HCRA is a Better Club when you're Involved</p>

SHARE THE KNOWLEDGE MEETINGS

STK Zoom Meeting Schedule for 2023

Share the Knowledge Zoom meetings are back again in 2023 for everyone's enjoyment

Once again, Larry, W1AST has worked extremely hard to find and host these exciting presentations!

If you have a suggestion for a topic or would like to give a presentation contact Larry at w1ast@arrl.net

<i>January 17th - 7pm</i>	<i>All About Reverse Beacons & What They Do</i>	<i>By Peter Smith, N4ZR</i>
<i>January 31st - 7pm</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>By ??</i>
<i>February 14th - 7pm</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>By ??</i>
<i>February 28th - 7pm</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>By ??</i>
<i>March 14th - 7pm</i>	<i>A Modern Guide to Ham Radio Teletype</i>	<i>By Juergen, NV1Q</i>
<i>March 28th - 7pm</i>	<i>The YLRL (Young Ladies Radio League)</i>	<i>By Barbara, KC1KGS and Anne, WB1ARU</i>

1948 through 2023 = 75 Years as an ARRL Affiliated Club



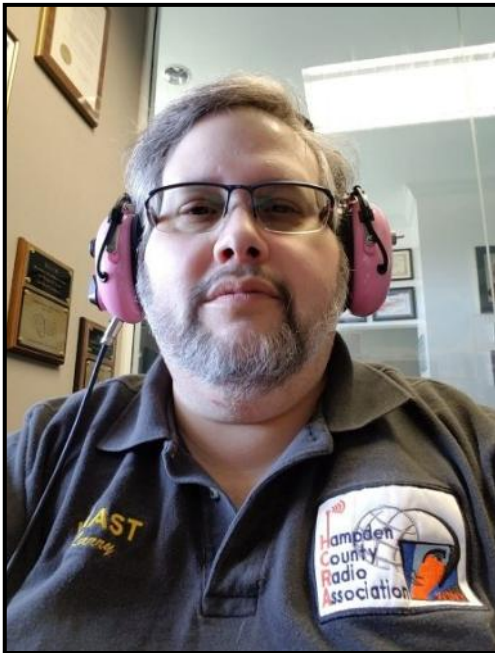
October Meeting YouTube Link

The October meeting was the second in-person meeting since the Pandemic began! If you missed it, here is your chance to view it.

Please do not forget to click on the SUBSCRIBE button!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGdN3v0dvzk>





November 2022

I am sitting here watching the spot collector (part of DX Lab Suite) populate with all sorts of DX this morning. It's a little past 8 am and DX is showing including entities that I need for my own collection.

Have you noticed that the HF bands have literally come "alive" lately? 10 meters has been hopping. I often keep FT8 on while I am working, as it needs minimal interaction from me when I glance over and see something I need to work. But today I am watching for CW and SSB spots and even though it looks like a mediocre day propagation-wise, there is a lot of DX happening today.

If you are a Technician class licensee, you do have 10 meter access between 28.300 and 28.500 on SSB. That section offers a lot of activity to you. If you don't have a HF rig, contact a friend or a member of the board. You definitely want a taste of HF operations, as it will bring

a new level of excitement to your ham radio experience. So much so, that you will want to get your own HF rig and upgrade your license to gain more frequency availability.

Speaking of 10 meters, in December from 7:00 pm on the 9th through 7:00 pm on the 11th, the ARRL 10 meter contest occurs. This is both a SSB and CW contest and is a heck of a lot of fun. It's also a contest where, if you are operating from home, you can direct your score to be credited to the HCRA. More on this next month, but mark your calendar now.

Speaking of December, we have our annual holiday party scheduled for Monday night December 5th at the Steaming Tender restaurant in Palmer. The party runs from 6 pm through 9 pm and offers a chance to get together with your friends and club members and to bring your spouse's/significant others and have a great time.

Good food, raffle prizes, great friends all gathering for an enjoyable evening. Mark your calendars for the event. The cost is just \$25 per person. How can you go wrong? Plan for it now. See the details of meal selection and where to send your payment, which is your reservation. The deadline is Monday, November 21st. You must reserve and pay in advance. There will be no last-minute, show up and pay at the door allowed. You must have a reservation! More information including meal choices on page 9.

The Club is now doing a new big raffle as we have in the past. We have decided to raffle off a Geochron Atlas 4K including a \$300 Best Buy gift card (so you can buy the size screen you want to go with it). The Geochron is a very cool clock and information source. Hang this on your wall and connect it to the internet and select what layers you want displayed and you will have the coolest wall display.

You can display time zones, Greenwich mean time, local time, sunrise and sunset, duration of daylight, gray line, satellite weather, satellite positions, earthquakes and volcanoes, ham radio transmissions and data, plot your log data, and much more – all at 4K resolution.

Hang the screen on the wall, in whatever size you desire, and be the envy of everyone as it delivers a big upgrade to any ham shack. Learn more at <https://www.geochron.com> and the ham radio bundle here: <https://www.geochron.com/ham-radio-premium-bundle>

Continued on page 5

FROM THE PRESIDENTS SHACK CONT'D

Support your club, buy a ticket or a few at \$10 each. We will be selling a maximum of 250 tickets and drawing the winner then or at the MTARA Flea Market, whichever comes first. The tickets will be for sale at the November meeting and the Holiday Party too. See page 8 in this issue for all the details.

The November meeting returns an exciting pastime to the HCRA. The annual November Auction. What is it you ask? It's an opportunity for you to sell that ham gear (no computer stuff) that you have been thinking about for so long. The club will auction it off and take 10% of the sale price and you get the rest back. Unless you decide to donate it to the club.

Anything ham radio and electronic is welcome. You can view the rules in this issue of ZeroBeat on page 7. This is going to be a fun evening. The doors open at 7:00 pm and the fun begins at 7:30 pm. Bring your items to sell and bring your cash to buy some goodies. The fun of the auction is returning!

Don't have anything to sell or the cash to buy something? Attend anyways and say hi to old friends and make new ones. Maybe you'll see something you want to save for or find interesting and have to investigate for yourself. This is an "In-Person" event that you want to attend. I hope to see you there!

The ARRL has restructured its club commission program. If you are thinking of joining the ARRL, do so THROUGH the HCRA and we will make a **\$15** commission on your first-time membership! If you're already a member and need to renew, please do so through the club and we will earn a **\$5** commission. It's easy and painless and helps your club.

The Big E has ended. There were over 100 volunteers from all over New England and eastern NY and NJ that made it happen. We spoke to over 1200 interested parties about ham radio and raised awareness that ham radio still exists and is a viable hobby in this modern world. It may take months to see if any of those parties we spoke to earn their license.

For those staffing the booth, it was an opportunity to work with both friends in some cases and meet hams from other portions of New England that you normally would not have the opportunity to speak with. On the days I was in the booth, I met hams from eastern MA, West Chester County of NY, VT and NH, and all over. It was a heck of a lot of fun and made for some interesting conversations. It was certainly an opportunity I'm glad I had.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. Enjoy the time with family and friends and get on the air. The bands are hopping. It's a perfect time to give back to this hobby that we all love. Help a new ham get on the air too. It's a great time to introduce new hams to the excitement of HF.

I hope to see you at the November Auction and the December Holiday Party and hear you on the air during the 10m contest in December too.

73,
Larry, W1AST
W1AST@arrl.net

All Past Meetings are on the HCRA YouTube Channel - Don't forget to click subscribe!

Did you miss any past club meetings? Maybe you want to re-watch all or part of a past meeting? Click or copy the following link to view past meetings or search YouTube for past club meetings

<https://www.youtube.com/user/HampdenCountyRA>

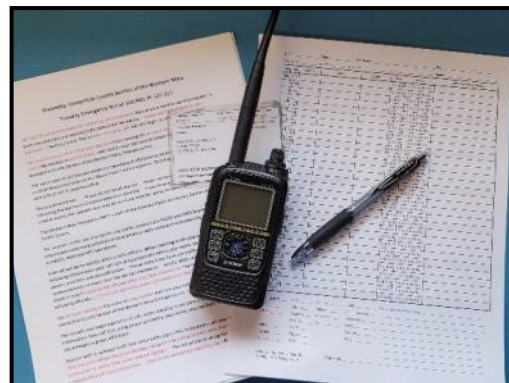
ARES NET UPDATE

WMA ARES Update by Smitty, KC1IKA ~ ASEC Net Manager

Where has the Summer gone? We are back to live club meetings and it's good to see everyone. Summer spared us with a minimum of severe weather and little damage. The big question is what will this Winter bring?

One question I often get when severe weather approaches is, what will I do to get ready? My standard answer is, "nothing". My mantra for decades has always been, if you are always ready you don't have to get ready.

Winter will be here before we know it. It comes every year and can bring deep cold that freezes water lines as well as deep snow and high winds that can disable the power grid, sometimes for days. This would be a good time to get ready for whatever comes our way. Fortunately, we usually get a couple of days warning of impending Noreasters. This allows us to verify our winter gear is ready and able to assist with our comfort and keeping us on the air. Don't wait for the warnings to get ready!



Winter will be here before we know it. It comes every year and can bring deep cold that freezes water lines as well as deep snow and high winds that can disable the power grid, sometimes for days. This would be a good time to get ready for whatever comes our way. Fortunately we usually get a couple of days warning of impending Nor'easters. This allows us to verify our winter gear is ready and able to assist with our comfort and keeping us on the air. Don't wait for the warnings to get ready!

One thing you can do to prepare is to make sure you have enough food and water for at least a week. You should also have a way to prepare any food you do have. Warm food is a huge comfort if power has been off and your heat isn't working. A butane stove, like the ones restraints use, can safely be used in the house. This was my cooking area when I had Covid and isolated myself in my shack. Make sure you stock up on fuel for it now. If you wait until the storm is announced to buy fuel it might not be available.

Because I am involved in emergency communications I also have enough battery storage to operate for a week if the grid is down. You should have at least a few days worth of batteries, even if you only use them for lights. See the article I wrote on portable operations and battery power for some ideas. It's on hcra.org.

I will continue this discussion in the December issue with some additional recommendations that I have used over the years.

Still looking for additional Net Control Stations. If you have any questions or would like to sign up for training, please contact Smitty, KC1IKA at KC1IKA@ARRL.net. Smitty is the Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator and Net Manager for Western Mass ARES.

73,
Smitty, KC1IKA
ASEC, Net Manager, WMA ARES

To be continued in the December issue...

NOVEMBER AUCTION

The HCRA Annual November Auction is Back!

The annual November Auction is back after a lengthy absence! Many long time HCRA members fondly remember the annual auction. Even I can remember this event going back to the first time I joined the club in 1997.

This has always been an exciting, fun filled event that every HCRA member wants to be a part of! It's not limited to club members either, tell your ham friends all about the auction that will happen on November 4th at 7:30 pm at the Holyoke Hospital Auxiliary room.

A Few Guidelines and Rules to Make This Event More Enjoyable!



When: November 4th, Doors Open at 7 pm, Start Time is 7:30 pm

Where: Holyoke Hospital Auxiliary room

Location: For Directions and Map: <http://www.hcra.org/meeting-location>

What: Any Ham Radios or Ham Radio Related Equipment, Antennas, Electronic Components, Parts and Electronic Accessories

How: HCRA will take 10% of final selling price (\$1 minimum). Starting Price, Reserve price can be set by the selling party.

Note: If an item fails to sell you MUST bring it home!

\$25 & Up is a "Live Auction" / Under \$25 will be a "Silent Auction"

NO: Computers or PC related items. No monitors or ANY PC parts!

Notes: Tag each of your item(s) with your name, call, phone, and email.
Club donations are always welcomed!

For additional info contact Larry, W1AST at w1ast@arrl.net



HCRA's BIG RAFFLE

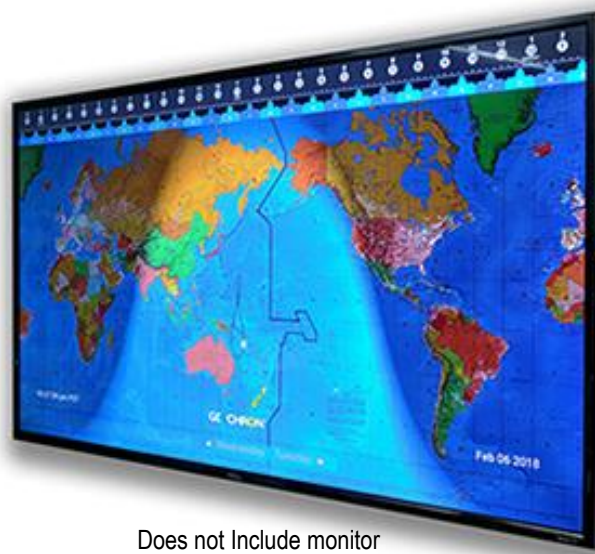
Win a Geochron Atlas 4k plus a \$300 Gift Card to Best Buy!

The HCRA big raffle is returning for 2023. Tickets are now available at the November club meeting and at the Holiday Party December 5th. More info on the party on page x but get your tickets early as only 250 tickets will be sold! The drawing will be held at the MTARA flea market next March of 2023. Tickets are only \$10 each so buy a few to increase your chances.

Raffle Details:

- ◆ Tickets are \$10 each with a maximum of 250 to be sold
- ◆ Prize: Geochron Atlas 4k (Monitor not included)
- ◆ Additional \$300 Gift Certificate to Best Buy for the monitor of your choice
- ◆ Drawing: When 250 Tickets are sold or at the MTARA Hamfest in March 2023
- ◆ Tickets will be available at the November Auction and at the Holiday Party

Inspired by our Geochron mechanical world clocks, the Geochron Digital 4k is a high resolution display in the digital world. Five map sets are overlaid by intricate patterns of human activity, and a live layer of the current position of the International Space Station. Use Location Pins to label important places, and switch time zones on the fly. Comes with a one year warranty.



Does not Include monitor



Besides buying raffle tickets at the November Auction and at the Holiday Party you can also buy tickets by contacting Larry, W1AST at the following email address: w1ast@arrl.net

Or by contacting any of the HCRA Board Members who's contact information is on the last page of Zero Beat.

Don't Wait, Get Your Ticket Today!

HOLIDAY PARTY

The 2022 HCRA Holiday Party at the Steaming Tender

Date: Monday evening December 5th

Time: 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: The Steaming Tender Restaurant ~ 28 Depot St Palmer, MA 01069

Cost: \$25 per person

(Spouses/Significant others & Friends are welcome as are well behaved children over 14 or young hams)

Deadline: Tickets MUST be purchased no later than Monday, November 21st

Payment: Check's should be made out to: HCRA and mailed to our P.O.Box (see below)

Your payment is your RSVP

Door Prizes will be Available!



MEAL CHOICES

***Yankee Pot Roast Dinner:** Braised pot roast topped with rich pan sauce served with mashed potatoes, and vegetable of the moment*

***Maple Bacon Chicken Dinner:** Oven roasted ten-ounce chicken breast cooked in a maple dijon glaze with bacon and rosemary*

***Baked Haddock:** Baked haddock cooked in white wine topped with buttered bread crumbs and a side of mashed potatoes and home made tartar sauce*

All entrees come with their fabulous Whiskey bread pudding for dessert and water to drink. The bar will be available for drink purchases to suit everyone's choice

Make checks payable to HCRA
and mail reservations to:

Be sure to include your meal choice

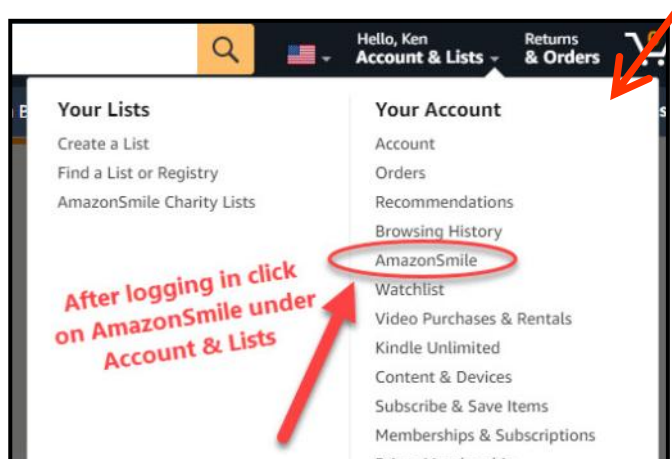
Hampden County Radio Association
P.O. Box 562
Agawam, MA 01030-0562



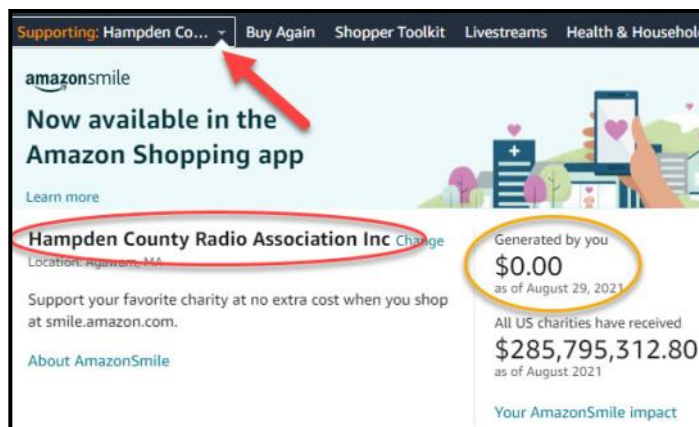
What is AmazonSmile? AmazonSmile is an easy way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you! AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, plus the benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of all your eligible purchases to HCRA.

Start by Logging into your account, if you don't have an account follow the directions to create an account.

Once you are logged in look for the drop down menu under Accounts & Lists then select AmazonSmile.



After clicking AmazonSmile you need to select your charity. Type **Hampden County Radio Association** in the search box, just like above!



Items eligible for AmazonSmile donations will be marked as shown below (circled in Red)



Once you have Hampden County Radio Association is saved as your charity it will look like the image shown above. The Red circle shows the charity of your choice while the Yellow circle shows the total contributions made from your purchases.

It's hard to believe but it's time to begin your holiday shopping! If you're like most people online shopping is part of everyday life. Especially since the Covid pandemic more and more people are shopping from home. Whether your doing holiday shopping or just need something for your ham shack why not help your club at the same time?

Happy Holiday Shopping!

TUNING INDICATOR KIT

QRP Guys LED Tuning Indicator Kit by Bill, W1FMX

Last year, I tried using a portable mag loop antenna for the first time and found that it was a lot of fun, though QRP operating does require patience. Commercially sold portable mag loops are first tuned by adjusting the built-in tuner for the loudest noise reception, then it is good to use an SWR Meter to fine-tune the antenna. But, when you are sitting outside in bright sunshine or low light conditions, reading the scale of an SWR Meter can be difficult. The answer to this problem is to use an LED Tuning Indicator.

There are currently two LED Tuning Indicators on the market. The first is called an “Alextune” which can be bought as a complement to the Alexloop antenna. The Alextune comes enclosed in a plastic case with clips so that it can be used by simply clipping it to the PL-259 connector on one side of a portable mag loop. When one transmits, the Alextune’s white LED will glow mostly brightly when the antenna has been maximally tuned. The Alextune, which costs about \$60, can handle up to 10 watts CW, or 20 watts in SSB mode.

Another option for acquiring a Tuning Indicator is to build a kit sold by QRP Guys. This device works in a similar way to the Alextune in that it uses an LED to indicate the tuning status of the antenna except that it uses a Red LED that will glow brightly while the antenna is out of tune and will off when the antenna is correctly tuned. The Tuning Indicator can be used with Mag Loop antennas, antenna tuners that do not have a meter, or to



Photo 1

Alextune attached on the right side of the antenna

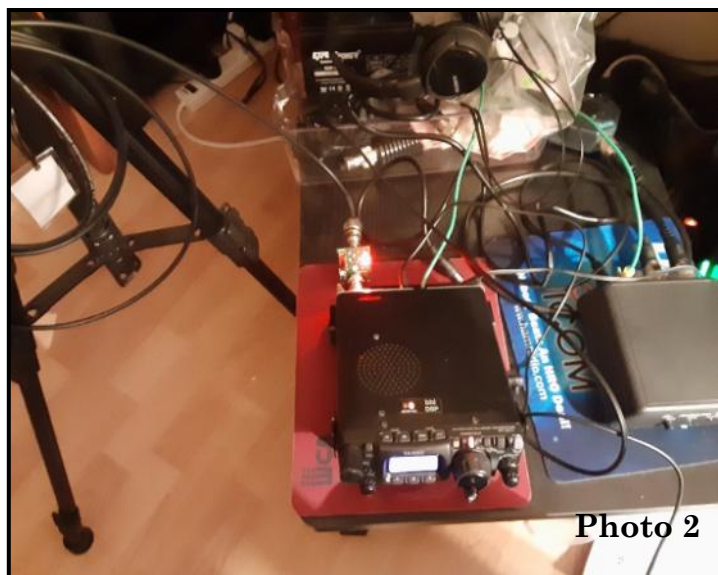


Photo 2

Tuning Indicator on a FT-817 Shows the Antenna has a High SWR

facilitate adjusting an antenna (i.e., shortening or lengthening it) to get it to resonance.

The QRP Guys indicator is essentially an interface between the antenna and the transceiver. Thus, one side of the QRP Guys Tuning Indicator attaches to the output of the transceiver while the antenna connector is connected to the other side of the device. The device also has a slide switch that allows the user to place it in or out of tuning indicator mode; in tuning mode, it protects the transceiver from damage caused by high SWR. After

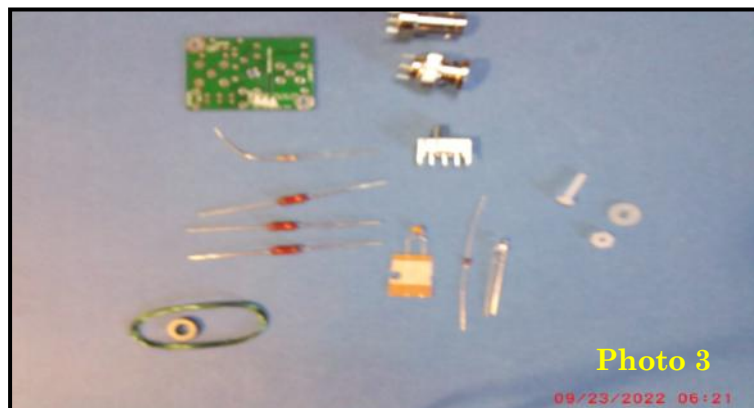
the antenna has been tuned, the device should be switched off so as to allow for maximum output from the transmitter. The kit is listed at \$25.

Continued on page 12

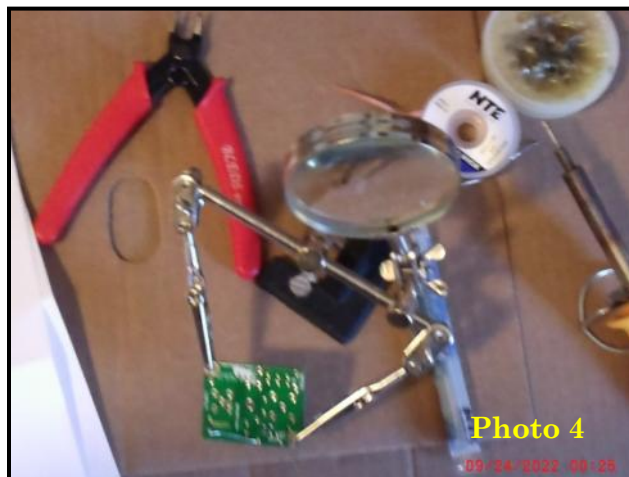
TUNING INDICATOR KIT CONT'D

QRP Guys LED Tuning Indicator Kit by Bill, W1FMX

The QRP Tuning Indicator kit can be assembled in a couple of hours, or less, depending on how experienced one is in working on a small printed circuit board (PCB). Altogether, there are about 16 parts in the kit. Directions for the kit are online (see: <https://qrpguys.com/tuning-indicator>) and are clear and easy to follow. For a novice kit builder, the two challenges will be soldering on a small surface and wrapping 25 turns around a small toroid (for this task, I would suggest using a pair of forceps, or something similar to hold the toroid while wrapping the toroid).



All parts included in the QRP Guy kit



PCB held for soldering by a "Hands-Free" device and a soldering iron with a fine tip

The Tuning Indicator has BNC connectors which are very useful for some QRP devices. In my case, BNC connectors were not needed as my Yaesu FT-817 requires a PL-259 connector, so I simply found a PL-259 to BNC connector to use with the QRP Guys the device (see photo 5). What is excellent about being able to attach the device directly to the transceiver is that you can see the LED indicator easily while also glancing at the radio. The completed device is small: approximately 2" by 1"

Unfortunately, the device does not come with a case, so I am considering trying to find a plastic enclosure to protect it. The QRP Guy Tuning Indicator Kit is an inexpensive and very useful piece of equipment to have if you are operating outdoors or in low-light conditions. It is not difficult to build and works well and the Red LED is very bright. One feature that I liked about the QRP Guys indicator is that it protects the transmitter against high SWR – this is a feature that the Alextuner does not offer. Another thing that is attractive about this kit is that it does not have many parts and can be assembled in an afternoon or evening.

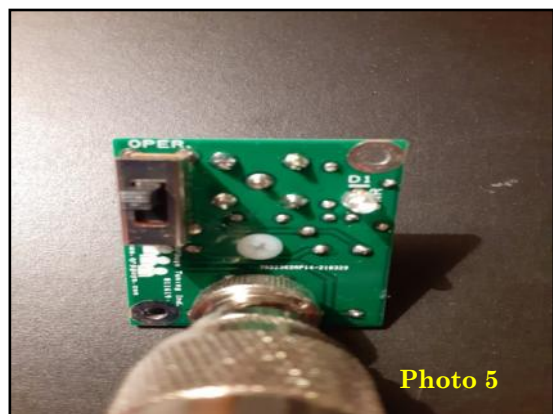


Photo 5

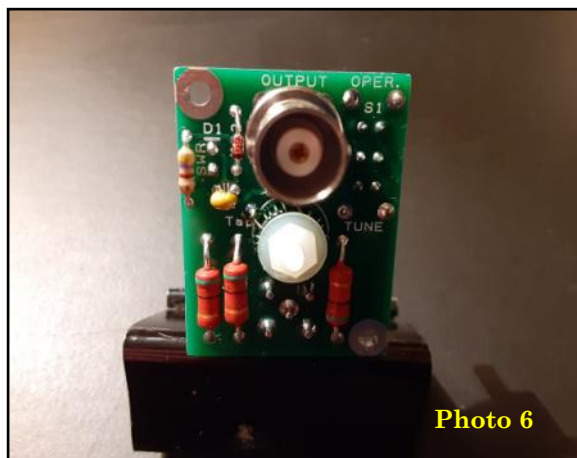


Photo 6

**73, Bill
W1FMX**

ITEM'S FOR SALE & WANTED

HCRA Members Items For Sale, Trade or Wanted

FOR SALE!

Malahit-DSP Wide band, hand held portable SDR receiver

Covers 50 Khz to 2 Ghz (less cell phone freqs)

Receiver Details:

- ♦ Covers 50 Khz to 2 Ghz (less cell phone freqs)
- ♦ Long Life Internal Battery
- ♦ Touch Screen
- ♦ SMA adapter
- ♦ Head Phone Jack / Ear Phone Jack
- ♦ Internal Speaker
- ♦ Charges via USB Port

Barely used and is in excellent condition.

Asking \$195

Contact Larry, W1AST at

hamop.w1ast@gmail.com



HYBRID MEETINGS!

Who is Willing to Hybridize Our In-Person Meetings?

HCRA Needs You to Broadcast, Record & Share Meetings via Zoom!

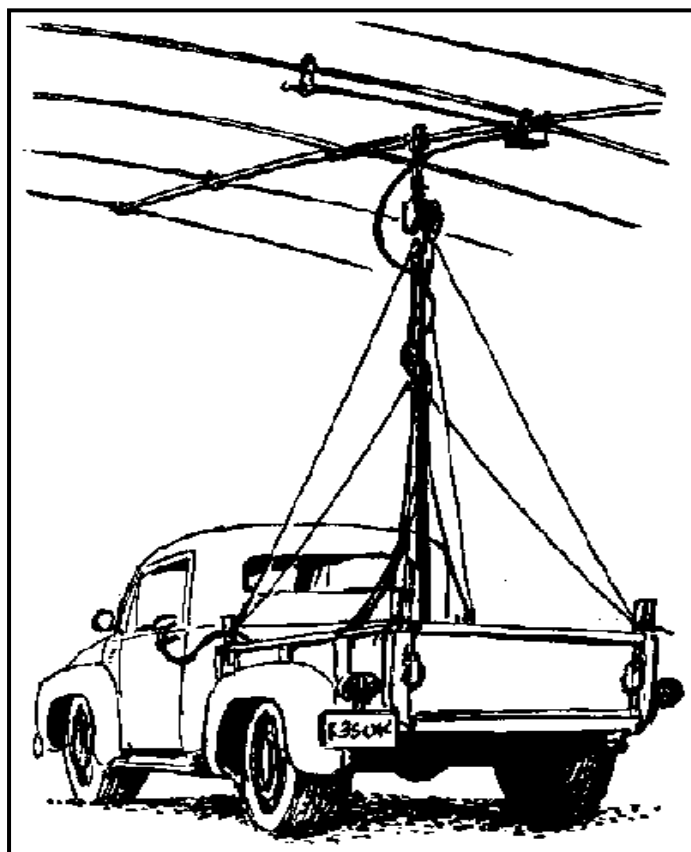
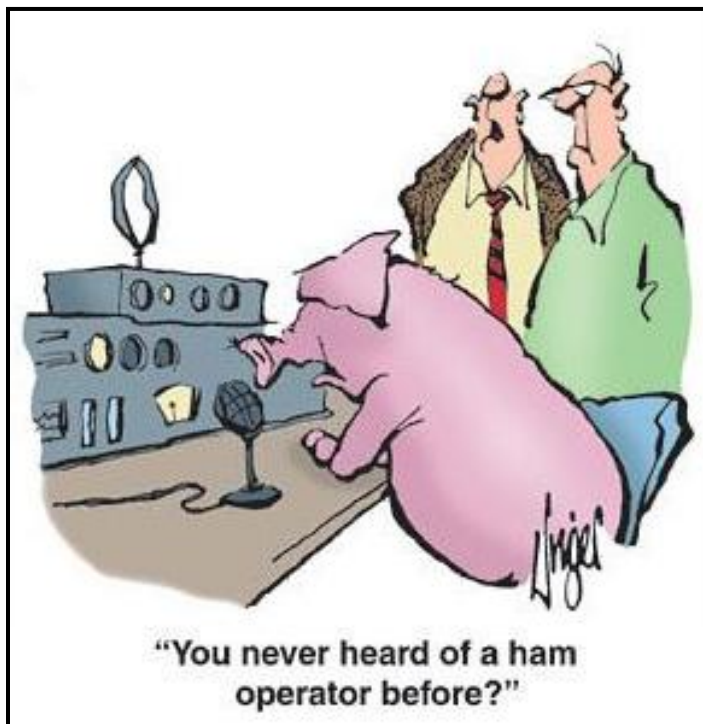
If there is a single member who can handle the monthly recording via laptop or another type of video camera that can be moved between the president, guest speaker and maybe the audience if there is someone speaking such as when everyone attending introduces themselves at the beginning of each meeting.

It's not a complicated task and it can be done very quickly so you will even be able to watch the meeting each month. You're doing this for the benefit of many other member who cannot drive to the meetings as they live further away or may not be able to drive at night.

We have been asking for a few months now with no takers! I'd love nothing better than for someone to step up and take the reins to this project and you will be doing the HCRA membership a big favor!

All that is needed is a laptop with a good camera and voice so it can be aimed at the club president, Larry, W1AST. Aim your laptop at whomever is speaking at that point. Plus recording the meeting for future use on YouTube.com.

For more info contact Larry, W1AST at w1ast@arrrl.net



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!

HCRA Clublog Information Updated on October 30th 2022



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.

Filter by club/continent:

League for HCRA - Hampden County Radio Association

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC ▼	Slots	Range
1	W1RM+1	33	73	0	140	55	168	84	183	86	136	28	239	986	59 yrs
2	NF1G	0	29	0	43	74	117	97	149	131	123	34	221	797	38 yrs
3	KK1W+1	41	55	0	75	29	122	36	118	24	59	26	216	585	46 yrs
4	KX1X	16	63	18	112	108	135	104	146	100	118	3	183	923	25 yrs
5	K1NZ+1	12	35	27	34	86	46	45	40	91	98	0	144	514	11 yrs
6	W1AST+1	2	11	0	46	17	63	52	64	75	78	1	136	409	13 yrs
7	NE1C	4	62	0	85	0	98	0	104	0	54	0	129	407	20 yrs
8	K1VOI	1	30	0	48	32	78	28	70	16	41	0	112	344	21 yrs
9	W1NU+2	0	16	11	10	20	55	43	53	37	61	2	109	308	7 yrs
10	NT1K+2	0	12	0	34	9	46	1	27	3	26	0	97	158	12 yrs
		160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6			
11	N1TA+3	1	28	0	25	8	42	8	40	3	29	0	86	184	21 yrs
12	N1JIE	1	3	7	20	25	34	33	39	15	13	1	77	191	5 yrs
13	N1FTP	0	0	0	31	6	59	19	6	3	16	1	76	141	14 yrs
14	W1JA+1	1	6	3	3	26	0	17	7	5	29	7	68	104	53 yrs
15	W1PY+1	0	0	0	1	0	26	0	14	0	1	0	42	42	12 yrs
16	AB1XW+1	0	0	0	2	0	29	0	17	0	6	0	41	54	10 yrs
17	WD1S	2	2	0	19	0	27	0	14	0	4	0	37	68	10 yrs
18	NV1Q+3	0	0	0	1	1	7	1	1	0	0	0	8	11	43 yrs

Do you know what Clublog is and what it can do for you?

If you have never used Clublog, need a refresher, or simply have the desire to learn as much as possible about Clublog or most anything else, go to the [HCRA YouTube Channel](#) and learn. All meetings are recorded and posted on hcra.org plus video links are listed in Zero Beat. The link to the April 2021 meeting where Clublog was the topic of our guest speaker is listed below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qj2lKcQRNbE&t=1s>



HCRA STUFF

HCRA is an ARRL Special Service Club



Hybrid Meeting Person Needed!

The HCRA is still in need of someone who can broadcast the video over Zoom and record the in-person meetings for future uploading to <http://www.hcra.org>. The purpose of doing this is to allow some of our more distant members who cannot make the drive to the meetings at the Holyoke Hospital Auxiliary room. All that is needed is a laptop with a camera that can be aimed towards the guest speaker and club President, Larry, W1AST when he is speaking. If any of our members can get this done or are not sure what type of equipment it will take to accomplish this task. If you would like to learn more about this or have any questions please contact Larry, W1AST at the following email, w1ast@arrl.net

10 Meter Net Winter Schedule

The HCRA 10 meter net will return to its Winter schedule on Monday, September 5th, and every Monday evening afterwards at 7pm for the Fall / Winter months. Gary, KC1JZR is NCS. This is a great way for our newest HCRA members with a Tech license to get some time on HF. Everyone is welcome to join us on 28.375 USB regardless of affiliation. Have any questions? Contact kd1ku@arrl.net

Join Brown Baggers for Lunch

For the benefit of all HCRA 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!

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@arrl.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>

DOTS & DASHES

THINGS THAT DON'T FIT ANYPLACE ELSE!

Hurricane Watch Net

The Hurricane Watch Net and the operation of WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center in Miami are manned entirely by volunteers. When activated, you will find us on 14.325 MHz (USB) by day and 7.268 MHz (LSB) by night. If either frequency is in use, we always ask permission to use them. It is our practice of being on the air ahead of the amateur radio station, WX4NHC. For more info go to <https://hwn.org>

Club Commission Program

One of the benefits of being an ARRL Affiliated Club is that you receive a commission for recruiting new ARRL members and securing timely ARRL membership renewals. The structure for this program has been updated, the process has changed to make things easier for the clubs. The complication of adjusting funds around credit cards, checks, and cash has been eliminated. ARRL is now responsible for all of the processing. Clubs receive \$15 for each new membership or lapsed membership, for renewing members, clubs will now receive \$5. For more info visit: <http://www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-benefits>

Contests and Special Event Stations

ARRL Contest Search - <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

ARRL November CW Sweepstakes | Nov 5th-7th | 1.8 - 28Mhz | 2100z Sat - 0259z Monday

For additional details visit: <http://contests.arrl.org/ContestRules/SS-Rules.pdf>

ARRL November SSB Sweepstakes | Nov 19th-21st | 1.8-28Mhz | 1300z Sat - 1900z Monday

For additional details visit: <http://contests.arrl.org/ContestRules/SS-Rules.pdf>

Special Event Station Search - <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

1st Pilgrim Landing at Plymouth SES | Nov 26th - Nov 27th | 0400z Sat - 2359z Sun

For additional details and rules visit: <http://www.wa1npo.org>

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 2023**

Go to <http://www.hcra.org/dx-qsl/> for complete information

or

Contact Paul, NF1G at nf1g@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

1st Friday of the month at 7:30pm HCRA Meeting. In-Person meetings will begin on Sept.9th. Meetings start with a meet & greet session with other members at 7pm followed by the regular meeting at 7:30pm sharp.

<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

Note: As things are beginning to open up after the Pandemic, you should contact any meeting or VE session that you are planning to attend to be extra sure they are back on their normal schedule!

President - Larry Krainson, W1AST

w1ast@arrrl.net

Vice-President - Ez Morales, W1AEZ

Edwin.Morales@me.com

Treasurer - George Collins, KC1V

hcra.kc1v@gmail.com

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

webmaster@hcra.org



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

**Plenty to Read Preparing for the
Anniversary Edition**

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