



SEPTEMBER 2009



Zero Beat

<http://www.hcra.org>



Community Service, Homeland Security, and fun
Ham Radio License Classes forming NOW
(New Condensed Format)

You are invited to attend

Amateur (Ham) Radio

Instructional Classes For the Technician (entry level) and General Class Amateur Licenses
Cost for these classes is FREE. Technician / General License Manual (\$25) strongly suggested
Books ordered prior to the first class date will be available for the first class
Class will meet on two Tuesdays (7 to 8:30) October 6th and 13th, then all day (9 to 4:30) October 17th

At the Moose Family Center #1849

The testing team will be present on Sunday, October 18th to administer license exams (cost \$15.00 per attempt)

There is no age requirement. Reservations requested, but not required.

The Technician course is a condensed class tailored for youth, but open to all interested parties.

The General Class will be in a study group format.

For questions, to sign-up, and/or order the book Please contact: John J. Pise, Jr., Kx1x at kx1x@arrl.net or 413-262-5249

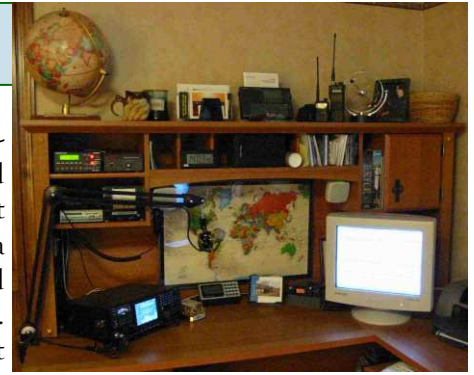
For Sale:

- 3 sections of Rohn 25G: \$50 each
- 1 Rohn screw in anchor: \$10
- Heath HD1410 Keyer: \$40
- Kenwood MC-60 Microphone: \$75
- Vibroplex Original Deluxe: \$125.00



Contact: Gent Lam, WA1CQF
shortwrench@comcast.net
(413) 562-7100

From the Shack...



September Meeting hosts a great speaker!

Kicking off our new season will be a seasoned presenter from the ARRL. Dan Henderson, N1ND will be joining us once again, but this time will be speaking on how to “*Avoid the exploitation of the Amateur Radio Service*”. It seems as we do our EmComm jobs better we become the target for easy (read cheap) information sources for other folks that should be doing it on their own. Dan has been part of an ad-hoc committee appointed by the ARRL board to develop guidelines on how we should respond to these other agency ‘requests’ and will be sharing those with us tonight. Good information for all radio operators desiring to know how to keep the ‘amateur’ Amateur Radio.

In addition to being knowledgeable in the EmComm area Dan is deeply involved in many other facets of amateur radio. N1ND is an interesting and informative speaker that I know you will enjoy. Don’t miss what he will have to say about EmComm and other important parts of our hobby.

It’s that time again – time to RENEW!

September is renewal time at HCRA. Please help us with next years planning by renewing early this year. Included in this month’s Zero Beat is an application. Please take the time right now to fill it out and either drop it in the mail or better yet come the club meeting on September 4th. You’ll save a stamp and have more fun! Although HCRA like everyone else is facing some financial challenges dues have not gone up. However we need your support of your continuing membership to keep doing what we do. Your membership goes a long way to keep amateur radio alive and flourishing in the Pioneer Valley. Thanks for your support and if you want to put a little ‘extra’ in as a donation it would be greatly appreciated.

What is your club working on for the 2009/2010 season?

Here’s a few of the things we have on our radar screen:

1. **Holiday Party** – We’re looking at the Steaming Tender again this year with a buffet meal priced around \$20/person. Possible dates are December 7th or 8th. Just like last year the entire train station will be ours so we can be as loud and boisterous as we want and not disturb anyone. Also planned are some door prizes and recognition awards. We’re looking for some ideas, suggestion and of course help. Are you ready to raise your hand?

2. **Zero Beat** – Publishing, printing and mailing Zero Beat costs more than a member’s dues! Hard to believe but true. Last year it cost \$16.66/member for

each member getting a mailed Zero Beat. We are seriously considering following the lead of other organizations and going to 100% electronic distribution. In the interim mailed (paper) copies of Zero Beat will be restricted to a maximum of four pages (typically two after September). Please help us and the HCRA budget by requesting a mailed copy ONLY if you truly don’t have access to the electronic version. The bonus to you is the electronic version is in color will have more content, pictures and more. Thanks!

3. **Field Day** – Continuing our efforts in fiscal conservatism we are definitely looking for a Field Day site that won’t cost us \$500 to \$750 rental fees. One site is under serious consideration but if you think you know of a good location let’s hear about it. Potential sites should be close to Springfield if possible, allow camping and night access, have reasonable facilities and hopefully are free. HCRA has a liability policy in place so our access to public sites shouldn’t create any insurance issues.

By-law Review – A by-law committee is reviewing our present by-laws. Irv, W6IS and George, KC1V have volunteered and will be looking for adjustments that will bring our by-laws into better convergence with changes that have taken place over the last few decades. The committee’s goal is to have a proposal ready for membership approval by January 2010.

For the rest of 2009 look for Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF at our October meeting, the annual HCRA auction in November and of course the Holiday Party and the ARRL 10 Meter contest in December. Whew! Isn’t that enough for the next few months!

’73...and please don’t forget to renew in September,
Jim, KK1W



HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION
 P.O. Box 562
 Agawam, MA 01001



Application for New or Renewal Membership

DATE: ___ / ___ / ___

NAME: _____ CALLSIGN: _____

ADDRESS: _____ LICENSE CLASS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: Home (____) _____ - _____ Cell (____) _____ - _____

Work (____) _____ - _____ - _____ ext ARRL Member: Yes No

E-mail: _____ @ _____ I don't want to be a member of the HCRA mailing list

Type of application: New Renewal

Class of application: Regular Family

Zero Beat Delivery: email USPS (only if you don't have email)

*Donations are tax deductible!
Thanks!*

Please list additional family members:

Name	Call	ARRL Member	e-mail
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

My interests: (please check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Power	<input type="checkbox"/> Digital Modes	<input type="checkbox"/> QRP
<input type="checkbox"/> Antennas	<input type="checkbox"/> DX'ing	<input type="checkbox"/> Satellite
<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Ham Classes
<input type="checkbox"/> Club Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Day	<input type="checkbox"/> Training (Elmering)
<input type="checkbox"/> Contesting	<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Hunting	<input type="checkbox"/> VHF/UHF
<input type="checkbox"/> CW	<input type="checkbox"/> Kit Building	<input type="checkbox"/> ?

Thoughts for improving 'our' club:

Dues are \$15/year for regular membership. Additional family members are free.

Annual Dues:	\$15.00
Donation:	\$ ____ .00
Total:	\$ ____ .00

Received by: _____ Date: ___ / ___ / ___

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. Thank you,
 Larry, WB1DBY, Zero Beat Editor

Meeting Location:

*Feeding Hills
Congregational Church
21 North Westfield St.
Feeding Hills, MA 01030*



Next Meeting:

**Friday Night
September 4th**

7:30 PM

**Guest Speaker:
Dan Henderson, N1ND**



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



PLEASE HAND CANCEL