

76 Cortland St  
Springfield, Mass  
Feb 11, 1940

Dear Jack:

You have no idea of the feeling that came over me when I saw the address on your envelope. The first thought was that some one in Providence, was sick or had passed on. Then on opening I was much pleased to find the letter was about "Ham" Radio.

Congratulations on your election as President of the Providence Radio Association. You have rock ahead of you.

The message was received from a local ham over the land phone, a few days after New Years day. Aunt Eva received it but cannot recall the exact date or the call of the ham. However, we received it O.K. and many thanks.

Now for an attempt to answer your questions.

1. The first I heard of the P.R.A. was some time in 1923 or 1924. We were up at Nuddy's and he spoke of another club that had been organized. But I did not hear

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much about the P.R.A. until a year or so later when there was a split, and some of the gang went to Olneyville Sq and made the headquarters under the two steel towers. I visited there several times, and attended several ham-fests. The exact dates I do not recall.

2. I have enclosed several sheets from the recent Convention programs, and that tells somewhat of the story of S.R.A.

3. I started in 1902 and in 1903 had a 3" spark coil on some kind of meters and used the call "BM" because it was easy to sign off with.

I was chief operator of the Rhode Island Boy Scouts in 1907 to 1909. About 10 kids including myself was given permission to occupy a school house off of Broad st near the Rail-road Bridge at Roger Williams Park entrance.

We had a 1 Kw spark (most of the time on 3 Kw) at that location until the neighbors kicked to the police, about the crashing noise

3)  
of the open spark gap. We then made ourselves known to Mr. Walter Massie, Massie wireless at Market Sq. and we made a quenched gap from a model he loaned to us, and we went along ok.

We set up a station at Mount Hope Park, Bristol in 1910-1911

Then in 1912 I received my licence and call WUC for # 8 Alfred St Olneyville. Then I moved the station to the home of Geo. Wetherald up off of Pocasset Ave. Then to 641 Plainfield St. where I turned in on Cupid and became married.

The war came up, and down came wireless. After the war, I had W1RT and W1BST, and as trustee of the S.R.A. W1BWX.

The first organized wireless in R.I. was the signal Corps of the R.I. Boy Scouts in 1907. The records should be available at the Prov. Tribune, because they were our backers.

I don't intend to write you a book, so I think I have covered the questions the best of my memory.

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If you would care to have me, I will come down to one of your meetings after the weather is good, and deliver a talk on ancient and Modern Communications about 1 1/2 hours. Black board, and receiver demonstrations. Let me know a week ahead.

Everybody is fine here, and we hope the same down your way.

Write again when you have a minute, and give our best regards to everybody at Doyle Ave.

73 cub.

Isaiah Creaser.

# Chronology of the Springfield Radio Association

## ETERNAL VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF SUCCESS

1919 — 1939

**T**HE ASSOCIATION was founded by Isaiah Creaser, WIBSJ, in the First Highland Baptist Church, State Street, Springfield, Mass., in April, 1919. It was then known as The First Highland Wireless Telegraph and Telephone Association and consisted of nine members.

On Sept. 17, 1920, the Association was affiliated with the American Radio Relay League and at that time the name was changed to The Springfield Radio Association. The membership had gained to about 100 and it was impossible to house all the members at one meeting. The Association was divided into two sections, beginners and licensed hams.

In 1921 receivers were built and the Carpentier-Dempsey fight was relayed by loud speakers to an audience of 10,000 people congregated at Court Square, Springfield, Mass.

Booths were set up in the several Radio Shows held in the Municipal Auditorium and at the Eastern States Exposition. The Association transmitter handled amateur traffic universally. Was a member of the A.A.R.S.

On April 19-20, 1929, sponsored the New England Division Convention, and in May, 1930, maintained communication stations on pylons at the air races, Bowles Airport and the Springfield Airport. In 1931 was the Official High-Frequency Communications Station WIBWY for the First Corps area air maneuvers at Bowles Airport, for which commendations from Major Gen. Geo. S. Gibbs, Chief Signal Officer, U.S.A., was received. The transmitter used was built by E. G. Hewinson.

Several members donated sufficient money to build a shack and the members and friends put up a very well-built building at 115 Shattuck Street, Springfield, Mass.

In 1932 first experiments with 5-meter phone were conducted.

In 1934, with the assistance of a committee from the Western Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association, sponsored the New England Division Convention. The Association has been instrumental in giving instructions to over 200 hams who have received licenses.

It was one of the first to experiment with Class B modulation, several of the members making the transformers.

In 1937 first experiments in a small way were carried on ten meters. Later in 1938 the Association was fortunate to purchase a partially built 35-foot tower from a local ham—WIKIU. The tower was finished and erected just before the hurricane of 1938. The tower withstood the blow, and a three-element rotary beam has been installed. The beam has worked beyond all expectations with an 80-watt input bi-push exciter. The success of the Association has been attributed to the democratic organization under which the doings of the Association are governed.

Here we are in line in 1939 with the sponsorship of the New England Division Convention, a 25-year commemoration of the founding of the American Radio Relay League, and an anniversary of the 20 years of The Springfield Radio Association.

We have plans for experiments on the 2½ meters and also possible work along with television.

It is the dream of the founder of The Springfield Radio Association that the hams of Springfield and nearby towns will organize an Association which will take the name of The Springfield Radio Association and build a clubhouse in some outlying section of the city, have facilities to house several transmitters, and suitable rooms where visiting hams can bunk for the night. In other words, let's build and progress with the times of the day. Television is nearly in our back yard, but what has the amateur done to reduce the gadgets on the transmitter and produce an outfit within our purse? Let's get going, gang.

76 Portland St  
Springfield, Mass.

Mr. J. M. Quator  
42 Doyle Ave

Providence,

John Adams

