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CHEESE BITS



MT. ARMY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA ARNS
50.125, 144.150, 220.125, 432.110, 1296.110 MHz-W3CCX-Repeater 222.98/224.58 MHz

Affiliated Club: AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

Meetings: Third Thursday of each month at 8:00 P.M.
Southampton Free Library, 947 E. Street Road
Southampton, Pennsylvania 19866

VOLUME XXXI

MARCH, 1989

NUMBER 3

THE PREZ SEZ

Homebrew Night is over and the results are in. Best Construction this year went to Gus, K3GYS, for his 1296 MHz 2 tube amp. Most Technical went to Chuck, WA3IAC, for his 10 GHz linear transverter. Most Prolific went to Jo, W2EIF, for his 903 MHz transverter, milli-watt wattmeter and 903 MHz signal source with built-in attenuator. Most Miserable Failure went to Walt, WA3AQA, for his series of blown screen regulator boards. And Most Unusual went to Doc, K3GAS, for his fiber optic experiment. Congratulations to all the entrants and to the winners. The number of entries proves that Homebrew is not dead in our Club.

I would also like to thank Marty Durham, NB7H, Technical Editor to Ham Radio Magazine, for providing Ham Radio Magazine subscriptions to the winners of our yearly Homebrew Night.

Dave, N3CX, called the first June Contest Meeting at the home of Phil, WA3NUF. Clearfield County, Pennsylvania has been chosen as our objective this year. It is in grid FN01 and is about a 4 hour drive from the Phila. area. A few tentative plans have been made and a second meeting has been scheduled for 1:00 P.M. Saturday, March 11, at the home of Ernie, W3KKN. Volunteers are needed to go on this expedition. If you are interested, come to Ernie's on Saturday and make plans for June 9, 10, 11 & 12 to go mountain-topping in beautiful Western Pennsylvania. I can promise you it will be a great deal of fun!

I'll see you at the next meeting!

Bob N2SB

NOTE: *** DUES ARE DUE !! ... MEMBER- \$10 ... RETIRED- \$5 ... SEE DOC ***

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DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: THE THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH. SWAP SHOP ITEMS - NO CHARGE

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609-268-0736

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WB3DNI, PAT CAWTHORNE
215-672-5289

MONDAY NIGHT NETS

7:30 PM - 50.125 MHz
8:00 PM - 144.150 MHz
8:30 PM - 220.125 MHz
8:30 PM - 224.58 MHz
9:00 PM - 432.110 MHz
9:30 PM - 1296.1 MHz

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* * *



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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
By Harry Brown, W3IIT

MARCH

- 4-5 ARRL International DX Contest SSB. See Page 103, December '88 QST for details.
- 5 York Ham and Computer Winterfest '89. Talk-in - 146.37/.97 and 147.93/33.
- 8 EME Perigee.
- 9 Pack-Rat Executive Board Meeting at QTH of WB2VLA. 609-882-1040 for directions.
- 11 Second Meeting for Pack-Rat June Contest expedition at QTH of W3KKN, 1:00 P.M. Call 215-659-3485 for directions.
- 11 Shore Points Amateur Radio Club Springfest '89 at 4-H Fairgrounds, Egg Harbor City, NJ. Talk-in - 146.385/.985 and 146.52.
- 12 DVRA Hamcom '89 at National Guard Armory, Lawrence Twp., NJ. Talk-in - 146.07/.67.
- 16 Pack-Rat General Membership Meeting, Southampton Library. 8:00 PM program - N3CX will give a W3CCX/3, FNØ1 June Contest preliminary report with slides of the proposed site. Also WC2K has information on a new VUAC proposal which needs to be discussed by the membership.

APRIL

- 1 North Jersey Hamfest, Dover Armory, Dover, NJ. Talk-in - 146.07/.67.
- 1-2 Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium, Maryland. Talk-in - 146.07/.67.

VISITORS - FEBRUARY 16, 1989 MEETING

N3FUJ - Dave Michael - Warminster, PA
K9ES - Eric Smitt - Marlton, NJ
N3GVJ - Dan Odhner - Trevoise, PA
WB3KNU - Hugh Odhner - Lansdale, PA
Harmonic, WA3TEM - Joshua Lissauer - Owings Mills, MD

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

K9ES - Eric Smitt
9 Spinning Wheel Lane
Marlton, NJ 08053
609-985-7011

NEW WORK PHONE NO. FOR WA3NFV

717-774-2746

PROPAGATION REPORT
by Paul Drexler, WB3JYO

The past month has again been quiet as usual for this time of year, although there were at least two openings to report. I thank those members who have reported propagation info as my operating time has been limited recently. Please pass along any opening or propagation information you may have; it's better to hear it twice than to regret not printing it.

On January 22nd, 6 was open to the UK for over an hour in the afternoon. Packrats K3LOM, W2EIF, and WC2K were in there working some more of that exotic 'stuff', make sure you get in there to work the Europeans this time around-- you're going to have to wait a while for your next chance!

On the 16th of February, 6 meters opened again to the West and Midwest to TX, AR, and IND. The band was open most of the morning, from 0900 local to almost 1200 local. (TNX W3KKN and W2EIF)

Keep an ear on six, CU on the bands.

HOMEBREWERS '89

- K3GAS - Fiber-optic display and demonstration
- W2EIF - 903 XVRTR, Milliwattmeter, Signal-source/attenuator
- N3CX - 1296 Beacon, 1296 Alford Slot antenna
- WA3IAC - 3456 LO, 10.3 GHz XVRTR
- WB3JYO - 40 watt 2304 MHz. solid state amplifier
- WA3IWT - Harmonic generator for VHF/UHF/SHF
- W3NSI - 30 MHz frequency counter
- K3GYS - 1296 twin-tube 175 watt amplifier
- WA3JUF - 1 watt 903 amplifier, 1 GHz device test fixture
- WA3AQA - Tetrode regulated and Zener regulated screen supply
- WA3YUE - 628 NM 5 mw laser transceiver
- WØRSJ - 10.3 GHz dish feed
- K3DLS - Mobile operation logging system

WINNERS:

- K3GYS - BEST CONSTRUCTION
- WA3IAC - MOST TECHNICAL
- W2EIF - MOST PROLIFIC
- WA3AQA - MOST MISERABLE FAILURE
- K3GAS - MOST UNUSUAL

K3GYS, WA3IAC, W2EIF will receive 1-year subscriptions donated by HAM RADIO Magazine in addition to club plaques for their outstanding projects.

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: GE Mastr II commercial low band VHF transceiver which has been modified for 6 mtr FM. Crystals for 52.525 MHz and 52.41/53.41 MHz installed. 130 watts output. Complete with blanker board, pre-amplifier, control head, microphone, speaker, and Larsen mag-mount mobile antenna - \$295. Bearcat 210XL scanner w/manual - \$75. Two (2) Cushcraft ABW-144 2 mtr Big Wheel antennas in excellent condx w/stacking kit & manual - \$75. Lafayette HA-410 10 mtr xcvr (w/mic) excellent condx - \$40. MFJ-931 Artificial Ground (new in box-never used) - \$65.

CONTACT: HARRY A. SCHOOLS, KA3B
1606 South Newkirk Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145
PHONE: 215-468-1512

FOR SALE: 1 Radio Interface for use w/Commodore 64 Microlog AIR-1-\$50. 1 Beta 4 head VCR, Sanyo Model #VCR 6400. Like new - \$100. W/manuals or trade for receiver.

CONTACT: K3MPZ
PHONE: 302-994-6878

FOR SALE: 220 Microwave module 15W output mint condx-\$200 TS 820S-\$475. VFO-820-\$125.

CONTACT: RON, KB3QM
PHONE: 302-875-7373
(b/4 8:00 AM)

WANTED: Collins 62-S1-6 & 2 mtr xverter.

CONTACT: CHARLIE GIANNETTA,
WA3RSQ
PHONE: 215-266-1552 (work)
or on 6 & 2 mtrs SSB

COMMERCIAL ADS

HAM RADIO MAGAZINE: HR is the leader in Amateur Radio state-of-the art! Projects for every interest. Plus Joe Reisert, W1JR. Act now. Don't miss another exciting issue! Greenville, NH 03048 (603) 878-1441.

LOOP YAGIS: 902 MHz 33 element \$82 kit, \$99 assembled and tested. 1296, 45 element \$82 kit, \$99 assembled and tested. 1296-55 element (New "Super Looper") \$99 kit, \$119 assembled and tested. 2304-45 element \$67 kit, \$80 assembled and tested. Also available: Element and hardware kits for above. 2 & 4 way power dividers. Discount on complete arrays. Solid State linear amplifiers, 13.8 VDC: 1296 Mhz, 8 W in 35 W out \$305, 1 W in 20 W out \$55. Coming soon: 65 W Solid State linear for 1296. GaAs FET preamps 902 MHz .8db NF \$80, 1296 .8db \$80, 2304 ldb max \$125. Universal 1 GHz LO kit \$48 less xtal, 700-800 MHz LO kit \$48. Xtals available. Write for complete catalog: DOWN EAST MICROWAVE, Bill Olson, W3HQT, Box 2310 R.R. 1 Troy, ME 04907 - 207-948-3741.

MICROWAVE PARTS FOR SALE: All prices shown are POSTPAID in the 48 states. Check with Ham call accepted. 10 GHz GUNN SOURCES: All sources work the same, put out about 5 mw on 10.525 GHz and easily tune to 10.1 GHz. (I have modified them to 9.4 GHz easily). They run on 7.5 VDC, and include a separate detector diode to allow for transceive operation. SOLFAN-STYLE \$20; FLAT-PLATE ANTENNA STYLE (w/SMA's and coax) \$20; ROUND-HORN UNITS (lightest) \$20; TINY JAPANESE-STYLE (very short horn, tiny) \$30, (Japanese style comes complete with new case and PC board, already working as an intrusion alarm. Not certified! NEW!) 6 GHz STUFF: All are rectangular waveguide items, 1.37" x .62", with flanges where applicable, including postage! Waveguide-to-SMA transition \$25; Waveguide, rigid, about 36" long, new \$20; 2 lb assembly, with vane attenuator, several corners, elbows, and straights, with flanges \$15; Waveguide terminations ferrite-cone \$20; Flexible waveguide, various lengths, used \$20; Rectangular-to-Eleptical transitions, some new, all OK, some with Andrew eleptical stubs still attached \$20. INFRA-RED STUFF: Racal model IR-773, Interior 35 ft. sensor, new w/instructions, similar to Radio Shack \$25. Many hundreds of SMA and SMC connectors, new in packing, adaptors, solid coax-still getting it indexed - send for stock sheet and prices. I DON'T WANT THEM!! SHF MICROWAVE SUPPLY, 7102 W. 500 S., LA PORTE, IN 46350 ALAN RUTZ WA9GKA.

TID BITS

- There is a member of the Pack-Rats known as the "Sheet Rock Master" - wonder who that would be?
- K3IUUV, Bert checking out the aeronautical mobile scene in Puerto Vallarta - Hasta luego amigo tambien!
- Received a letter from NH Pack-Rat Gary, WAIYHO. Gary reports slow contest activity in the VHF SS until the Aurora hit Sunday afternoon. He sez "Talk about confusion...Aurora on 6-432...what band do you attack first?" He wound up hitting 6 and 220 hard and finished with 34,710 pts. Great Job!
- The Prez received a letter from Marty Durham, NBLH, Technical Editor for Ham Radio Magazine who had recently read Bob's announcement for Homebrew Night in Cheese Bits. Marty said, "This is exactly the direction that we are taking at Ham Radio, and I thought this would be a great opportunity to help promote more homebrewing". He enclosed three free subscriptions to be administered as awards along with a copy of the author's guide should any of our members be interested in publishing an article about their project.
- The VHF/UHF Advisory Committee is at it again, proposing new changes for operating and band plans. Now they want to change the calling frequencies for 13 and 33cm bands to 2304.2 and 903.2. Can you imagine the 2-meter feed-through which will occur from the local 144.200 KW's for those of us using 144 MHz IF's? As with the recent beacon frequency proposed change, the VUAC has assembled formal recommendations without consulting those of us who could be very adversely affected by this move. We will discuss the issue in depth at our March meeting, and prepare a statement to Bob Bennett, Atlantic Division VUAC representative.

* * * * *

The following Pack-Rats participated in the contest wrap-up session on February 4, 1989, at the QTH of Dave, W3ZD:

WA3AQA, WA3AXV, W3CL, N3CX, K3DLS, WB3DNI, W2EIF, K3GAS, W3GXB, W3HMU, WA3JUF, WB3JYO, W3KKN, WB3KRW, WA3NUF, WØRSJ, N2SB, WA3YUE, and W3ZD.

The contest results for our club members as well as the total club score appear in this issue. Looks like the Rats did it again!!

NEWS ITEMS FROM THE ARRL

The ARRL has long recognized the need to support our technical pioneers and has now established a program to help: The ARRL Technology Grants Program. Funds are being established to provide grants to individuals or groups conducting research and development in the general Amateur Radio technology field and to promote development in specific areas of amateur interest. Future issues of QST will announce details on applying for a grant and the criteria used to evaluate each grant request. Contributions to the fund should be set to: The ARRL Technology Grants Program, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111.

Several Radio Amateurs serve as ARRL Volunteer Counsel in the Atlantic Division. They have agreed to provide an initial legal consultation free of charge to ARRL members, so that Amateurs may knowledgeably decide which further steps to take in coping with their Amateur Radio-related problems. Amateurs wishing to be referred to a Volunteer Counsel in their area should contact ARRL Headquarters. League members who are attorneys are encouraged to inquire about this program. The Legal Strategy Committee has prepared a large amount of pertinent information concerning antenna and zoning cases which can be made available to Volunteer Counsel upon request.

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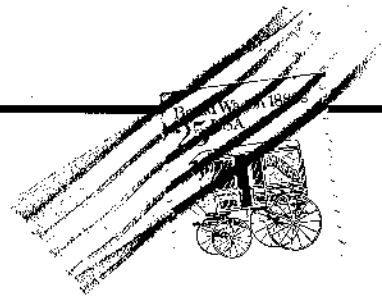
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