

PACK RATS'



PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

CHEESE BITS



MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

ARNS

50.125, 144.50, 432.110, 1296.025 Mhz, WR3ACD - 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 18966

VOLUME XXIII

JUNE, 1981

NUMBER 6

THE PREZ SEZ

As usual, there's a lot going on with the Pack Rats these days - some activity for everyone. The next big event coming up is the June VHF QSO Party. Bill, W3HQT and crew have things pretty well organized, but there is plenty of work to be done before, during and after the contest. If you haven't already volunteered, you still have time, see Bill. One time in which we never have enough help is during teardown. We always take the antennas and all equipment down immediately after the contest is over, usually midnight or 1 AM. If you can make it up to help then, you'll see some very grateful guys that have been going full bore since Friday. How about a couple of hours then, I know you didn't have anything else planned but sleep.

The 25th Anniversary banquet was the best one I've ever attended. It's always good to be with friends and this year brought out a larger group than usual with Mother Rat, Helen and Ed Tilton, W1HDQ and XYL as our guests. The Packrat of the Year Award went to Dave Zimmerman in honor of outstanding service to the Club. In the January Contest area, Ron, WA3AXV took the first place award, Bill, WA2DPU took second and Bill, W3HQT was third. Doug, WB3KES got the "Most Improved Score" award. We were pleased to award John, W3CXU the Mario Fontana Memorial Award this year. As you know, this award is not an annual one but is made as the occasion arises for outstanding contributions to the art of VHF/UHF Communications. John's contributions to the art of loop-yagi antenna design and development made the award an easy one to decide on. The most important award of the evening and in fact the whole 25 years of the clubs existence, was the "Pack-Rat of the Quarter Century" award to Harry Stein, W3CL. The long active life of the club, it's many achievements and reputation for excellence would not have occurred without Harry. His high standards have and still keep us all moving forward.

The May ARRL Night brought John Lindholm, W1XX as our guest and speaker. Needless to day, the talk and question and answer period were quite lively. There was much to be learned by the club members on some of the reasons behind ARRL sponsored activities. In addition, we expressed what a VHF group wants and expects of these activities. The yet to be announced Ad Hoc Committee on VHF/UHF contesting will be availed to indicate what we think the objectives and contests should be. John promised that we would be kept informed on what the committee is up to and we will also keep the committee advised of our thoughts.

The June meeting is the election of officers for the next year. Nominations will be open but please get an o.k. from the nominee first!

73, Harry, W3IIT

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DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING: THE THIRD THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH

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MONDAY NIGHT NETS NET CONTROL

7:30 PM - 50.125 MHZ	W3CL
8:00 PM - 144.150 MHZ	W2EIF
8:30 PM - 222.98/224.58	K3GAS
9:00 PM - 432.1 MHZ	K3IUW
9:30 PM - 1296.025 MHZ	W3CXU

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REC. SECY: K3IGX, DICK BOYLE
TREASURER: K3GAS, DOC CUTLER
DIRECTORS:

W3HQT, BILL OLSON (Ex-Of)
WA2DPU, BILL SMITH (2yrs)
K3NHX, JOE GARDOCKI (2yrs)
N3AHI, JIM HOLT (1yr)
WA3NFV, DAN MITTEN (1yr)

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TONY AND JAN DOUG AND WENDY
W3HMU WB3KES
HARRY AND ROSE DAN AND LUCY
W3IIT WA3NFV

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Syllabus by Lee, K3MXX

JUNE

- 5 First Telegraph line from Philadelphia to Baltimore, Md.
- 6 Delaware County ARC Hamfest - Ridley Jr. High School, DuPont and Free Sts.,
Ridley Park, Pa.
- 7 Old Virginia Hams ARC Hamfest, Manassas, Virginia. Info: Bruce, WD4ODM
- 8 Panama Canal Opened 1914
- 11 Board of Directors Meeting, QTH, K3NHX, Joe Gardocki, 72 Meadow Lane, Doylestown,
Pa. If lost, 348-3504. Directors and interested parties always welcome.
Come on out and help in the managing and running of our club
- 13 Staten Island ARC Hamfest. All Saints Episcopal Church, Victory Blvd. and
Wooley Aves., Staten Island, N.Y.
- 13-15 1900 UTC Saturday June 13 till 0600 Monday June 15. VHF QSO Party. The Pack Rat
Station, W3CCX will be at Hilltown, Pa. Many club members are needed to
assist in setting up, operating and tearing down the operation. Contact
Bill, W3HQT and offer him your aid.
- 14 Flag Day. Fly the Flag proudly today!!
- 18 General Club Meeting, Southampton Free Library, Street Road, Southampton, Pa.
Election Nite. Slide show, pictures from the 25th Birthday Banquet. The Mario
Raffle, Frankie's Silent Auction, Refreshments. An open meeting to all area
hams and amateurs. Bring your buddies along.
- 21 Fathers Day. Prepare the XYL and gang. Be sure to leave all those pretty
catalogue pictures where they cannot be overlooked...
- 21 First Day of Summer - The longest Day of the Year!!
- 20-21 SMIRK QSO Party
- 23 Pennsylvania becomes ours. William Penn signs treaty with Indians in 1683
- 27 Saturday 1800 UTC till Sunday June 28, 2100 UTC.
- ** ARRL FIELD DAY All Modes, All Bands ** Although this is not a contest, the
Pack Rats enter as a group, individual contacts are welcome by other amateurs
throughout the world - especially on the VHF bands - get in and get your
feet wet - you will have a lot of fun....

UP COMING EVENTS:

July Club Meeting - First outdoor meeting of the season. Auction time at
Zimmerman's Glenn...

Now is the time to start cleaning out that rats nest in the shack and preparing
the items for the auctioneers hammer...

A good fun nite - remember the date and keep it open JULY 16TH!!

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. ICOM 451A: The new Icom 451A multimode rig covers 430-440 or 440-450 Mhz ranges. One would be of interest to the FM crowd at the high end of the band, the low range version would appeal to the SSB operators down at 432 Mhz. Three memories are built in, along with programmable band scan. Transmitter output is rated at 10 watts. Digital readout of frequency is featured just as in the 6 meter and 2 meter units from Icom. Price \$899.95.
2. MICROWAVE CONVERTER: The new Lab-Tronics VTC 13-3 covers the range 2000 to 2600 Mhz for use in the ham band at 2304 and HBO channel at 2150 Mhz. IF output frequency is 54 to 72 Mhz. (Channel 2,3,4 TV) Oscillator is voltage tuned for remote operation. Kit of parts is supplied complete with circuit board. P.C. board is available as a separate item. Price \$40., PC only \$15., P.O. Box 171, Rogers MN 55374
3. COAX SEAL: Universal Electronics is selling rolls of plastic mastic material suitable for sealing coax fittings. To use, one removes about 6 inches from the roll and wraps starting at the fitting end, working toward the connection. The material is then kneaded to form a smooth surface. The seal can be removed and replaced with the same material. Will adhere to polyvinyl coax jackets. Price \$ 4.00 for 2 rolls, 1280 Aida Drive, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

* * *

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Joe, W2EIF

The VHF/UHF bands have not been very active. Six meters seems dead most of the time and I have not heard much on the way of DX even though it should be well under way by this date.

There have been a few aurora openings but nothing that is worth commenting on with respect to this area.

220, SSB at the low end, seems to be gathering steam and the usual gang can be heard and worked on Tuesday evenings. Quite a few are preparing for the June QSO Party. W3IY/4 took a direct hit from lightning and has to replace a lot of gear. Hope he makes it by contest time.

Hope the lack of activity means that a lot of people are getting ready for the June affair.

I will be on this year to make up for last years forced drop out.

* * *

VISITORS AT THE MAY 21, 1981 MEETING

W3KT - Jesse Bieberman, Malvern, Pa.	WB2UVB - Gene Bond, Moorestown, N.J.
W3ABC - Hugh Turnbull, College Park, Md.	KA2CQX - Janice Bond, Moorestown, N.J.
W1XX - John Lindholm, Hartford, Ct.	WB3EFO - Ed Lee, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.

* * *

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

For the 1981 - 1982 term the nominating committee suggests the following:

PRESIDENT - W3IIT, Harry Brown	REC. SECY. - K3IGX, Richard Boyle
VICE-PRES. - K3KTY, John Tate	TREASURER - K3GAS, Doc Cutler
COR. SECY. - WA3WAS, Steven Simons	Director - Two Year Term
	WA3NUF, Phil Miquelez
	WA3YUE, Bruce Loss

The election will be held on the June 18th Meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor prior to voting for the candidates.

* * *

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Because of increased postage and costs of materials, all future subscriptions, as of June 1, 1981 will be \$2.50. - YE PUBLISHER -

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Clegg FM-21 - 220 Mhz xcvr. Pack Rats, Trevoise and two simplex channels. Good condition. \$85. or best offer.

CONTACT: Lee-K3MXM
Phone: 215-635-4942

FOR SALE: Cushcraft beams - 11 el. 144 Mhz. \$8.
4 el. 144 Mhz. \$3. 11 el. 220 Mhz. \$8.
11 el 432 Mhz. \$8.

CONTACT: Lyn Rowland, W3NSI
Phone: 215-NE 2-4791 (N.E. Phila.)

FOR SALE: Kenwood 520-Mint cond. \$500 or best offer.

CONTACT: Ed, WB3DVN. Phone:215-887-6758 * * *

FOR SALE: 2M FM Twist Ant.& 2 RG-8U cables \$45. Midland 13-509 220 Mhz xcvr w/14 pairs xtals. Good condx \$230

CONTACT: WA3HVL, Don DeRosa
Phone: 215-924-8101

FOR SALE: 2-14 el. KLM 2M yagis w/baluns \$30@ or both for \$55. 8-3.2λ NBS 2M yagis w/phasing harnesses. Will sell separately \$30@ or all 8 with phasing lines \$400.

Midland 13-505, 25W 2M FM transceiver with simplex crystals-perfect for contests \$75 or best offer. CONTACT:

Bill Olson, W3HQT. Phone: 215-257-1739

TID BITS

Sun watcher, Jack Power, W2AXU, reports as follows: April 1981 mean monthly SS no.- 156.2 (RI) Sunspot Max. for cycle 21 is December 1979. Final smoothed No. 164.5 (RZ) Provisional smoothed No.s for September 1980 - 150.2 (RZ) for October 1980 - 150.2 (RZ)

Bert, K3IUV searched high and low to find the enormous smiling "Rat" to present to W3CL (see photo on picture page) at the 25th Anniversary banquet.

Congratulations to W3CXU, John Allen for receiving the coveted "Mario Fontana Technical Achievement Award". This is in recognition of his work on the 1296 Mhz high gain "pole" antenna.

Atlantic Division Director, W3KT, Jesse Bieberman and Vice-Director, W3ABC, Hugh Turnbull were guests at our May ARRL Nite.

Best wishes to Fred and Marsha (Marsha - Cheese-Bits typist, WA3TEM) on a new addition, Rebecca Helene on May 3, 1981!

* * *

JANUARY VHF SS UPDATE

John Lindholm, W1XX 9ARRL Communication Manager) the guest speaker at our May 21st meeting presented the Club with our 21st Gavel for the January 1981 VHF SS. He also awarded ARRL certificates to the hi scorers in the VHF SS. They are as follows: WA3AXV (National and division high), WA2DPU (a couple for Bill plus a club plaque); W3HQT, WB3CDE, WA3WAS, W3ZD, K3MWV, W2EIF. Multi-op W3KKN/K3KMN/W3CXU. WB3KES received a club plaque for the "most improved score". Congratulations to all.

* * *

BON MOTS FROM XL

You can always spot a retiree. He's the one who gets up on Monday morning and grins... Columbus was wrong! The world is flat..especially before pay day... About the only time overweight makes you feel better is when you see it on someone you almost married....

Sign in a restaurant: Eat now, pay waiter...

I have only one question, if they do draft women: Who gets to pin on the medals??

I'm not a jogger. To me, "two for the road" will never mean feet.

You can't plow a field by turning it over in your mind...

I figure that at the current rate of inflation, by the year 1990 a dollar bill will be worth more back in the tree....

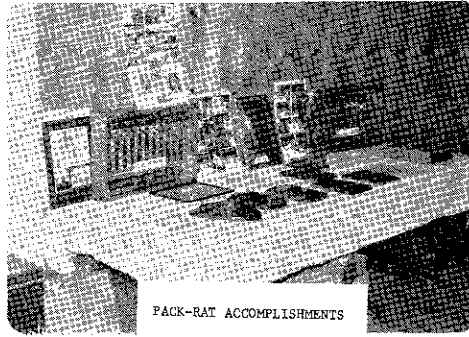
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ARRL BULLETIN NR 53 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT MAY 21, 1981
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

The Federal Communications Commission decided today to lift most restrictions on the amateur 1800 to 2000 kHz band. Some protection must remain for Canadian LORAN stations in the northeast operating on 1950 kHz. Accordingly, some band segment and power restrictions remain, with respect to 1900 to 2000 kHz. All restrictions will be lifted from the frequencies 1800 to 1900 kHz. The effective date has not been released but should be within the next two months. Monitor this station for a further bulletin AR



JANUARY VHF SS HI SCORERS
W3HQT, WA3AXV (WA2DFU NOT PRESENT)



PACK-RAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



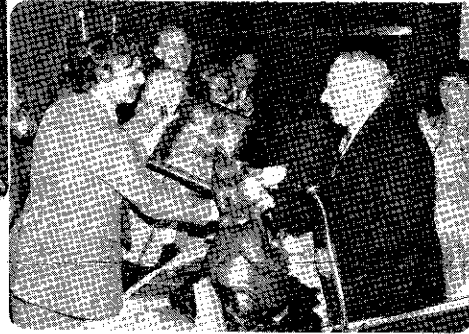
LONG TIME FRIEND ED TILTON, W1HDQ



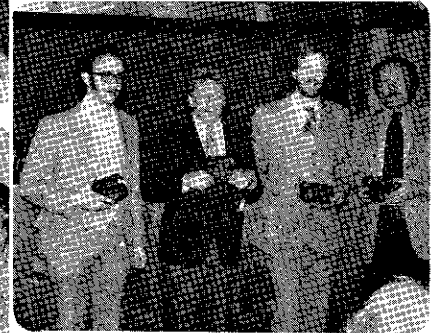
W3ZD ACCEPTS "PACK-RAT OF THE YEAR AWARD"



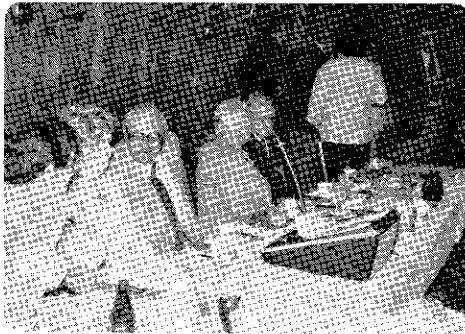
THE ANNIVERSARY CAKE - PREZ W3ILT DOING THE HONORS



PREZ, W3ILT PRESENTING A PLAQUE TO W3CL
"PACK-RAT OF THE QUARTER CENTURY"



HOMEBREW WINNERS
W3YUE, K3GAS, WA3WAS, WA3AXV



MASTER OF CEREMONIES K3KTY LISTENING INTENTLY



CHEESE-BITS EDITORS PAST AND PRESENT
W3CL, HELEN BRICK, K3JJZ
PUBLISHER FROM THE BEGINNING - K3GAS



PAST PRESIDENTS
FRONT ROW - K3BPP, W3HMU, W3CL, K3MM, K3GAS
BACK ROW - WA3AXV, W3HQT, W2ELF, K3TUV, W3ZD,
K3JJZ, W2AXU

25TH ANNIVERSARY

Photos by K3IGX

THE 7TH ANNUAL EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE
By Bill Olson, W3HQT

On the weekend of May 15-17, 1981, WA3WAS and I attended the 7th Annual Eastern VHF/UHF conference at the Sheraton Inn in Boxborough, Mass. Although a bit on the expensive side, this facility is excellent for a meeting of this type. WLJR and the gang put on an excellent show this year. Attendance was at an all time high with around 100 registered.

After breakfast in the Sheraton "Jungle Restaurant", the Saturday program consisted of formal technical seminars and informal single-band sessions (6,2,220,432,1296 and up) simultaneously in separate rooms. This made it impossible to participate in everything. Speakers were KILPS, W100P, Dr. David Norton from Anzac Electronics, WA2ZZF, K1FJM, K4GPG and KA1GT; speaking on everything from propagation to high dynamic range, low noise amplifiers.

Guest speaker for the evening banquet was Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, who spoke on VHF/UHF operation in Europe. Dinner was followed by a VHF trivia quiz and the usual prize drawing of goodies. My ticket was pulled next to last out of 100 or so and I still managed to pick up a piece of tylon P.C. board.

Saturday night was the usual bash in the hospitality suite which hampered a few in getting up Sunday morning for noise figure measurements. (Some of the equipment must have had a hangover too, since all Noise figure positions didn't work equally well). Sunday afternoon was antenna gain measurement time with WA2ZZF. We had to leave before it started, but left the 45 element loop yagi to be measured. It came out at 19.6 dB over isotropic - not bad!

Thanks to the committee - WLJR, K1LOG, K1FWF, WA2ZZF, N1AHC, K1LPS, Jan Heins, W1GXT, WA1TFH and AF1T for a great show. Next year's conference is scheduled for May 14-16, 1982. See you there!!

* * *

INTERFERENCE

Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, Vice-Director of the Atlantic Division has requested that we supply him with any experiences we have had or hear of on some of the newer forms of radio frequency interference. In addition to the usual radio, t.v. set, stereo and electronic organ, interference we now have to deal with scanners, computers and cable t.v. In some cases, we are the victim (some of those things really put out a broad band noise spectrum) and some cases we are the cause (usually because of poor design of the equipment being interfered with). Hugh would like to know what problems we had and how they were solved and what ones we may still be having. Much of the area of interference is not regulated or if so it is not defined clearly. If we are having problems, we'll have to get them known to the FCC if we expect any regulations to be made to help us in the future. Pass your experiences on to: Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, 6903 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD 20740

* * *

TID BITS

K3HW/6, Howard and Barbara Weinstein joyfully announce the birth of their son David Morris born on Monday the 13th of April 1981. Our very best wishes.

K4AWS, Tony down there in Florida going into cattle ranching. He worked a number of the Pack-Rats on May 26th opening. (K3ACR alerted me Tony but could'nt find you on the band)

N3AHI reports working an LU9 on the May 26th opening. K3ACR and W3CL worked David, C6ADV in the Bahamas.

Paul, W3FBF very busy as president of the Broomall, Pa. Rotary says hello to the Pack-Rats.

Glad to see the Delmont Radio Club paper "The Rag Chew" back on the street once again. Who is the editor? Best luck.

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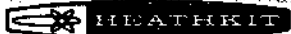
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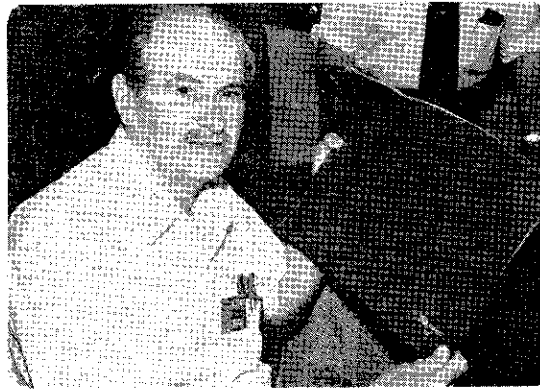
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for radio amateur

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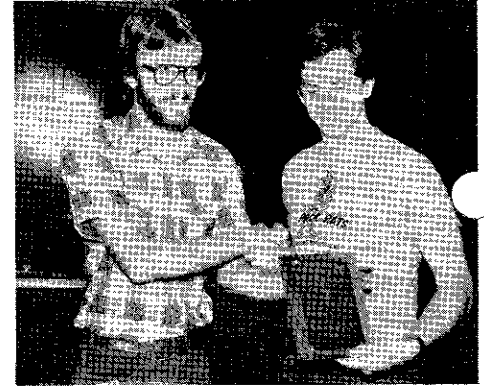
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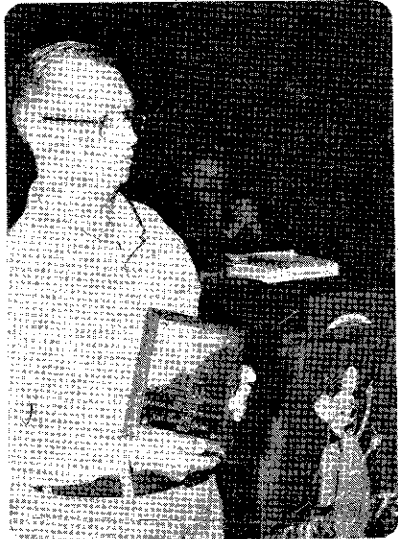
JANUARY VHF SS CHAIRMAN STEVE, WA3WAS PRESENTS BILL, WA2DPU WITH THE PACK-RAT NUMBER 2 AWARD



K3IGX, DICK BOYLE DISPLAYS THE PACK-RAT ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR



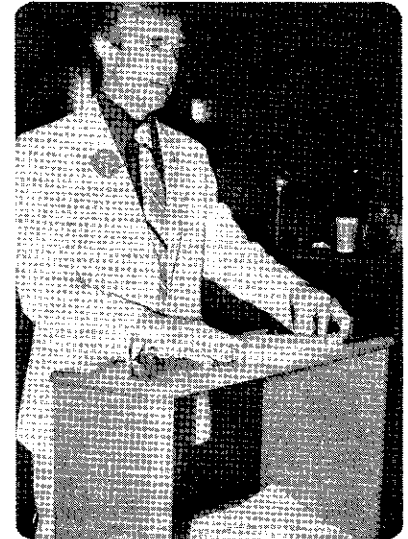
WB3KES, DOUG SIMPSON ACCEPTS FROM WA3WAS "THE MOST IMPROVED SCORE AWARD"



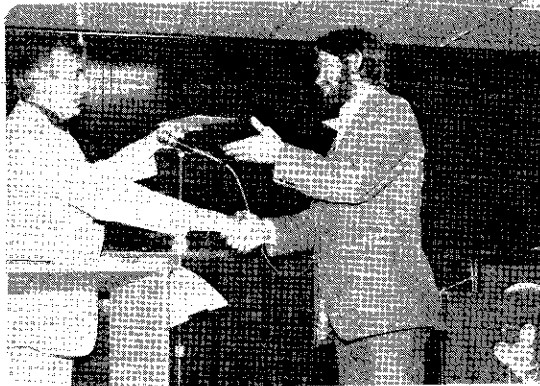
W3CXU, JOHN ALLEN SHOWS HIS "MARIO FONTANA TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE PLAQUE"



COFFEE BREAK



JOHN LINDHOLM, W1XX ARRL COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER DISCUSSES THE CONTEST STORY



NUMERO TRES TO OUR JUNE CONTEST CHAIRMAN, W3HQT

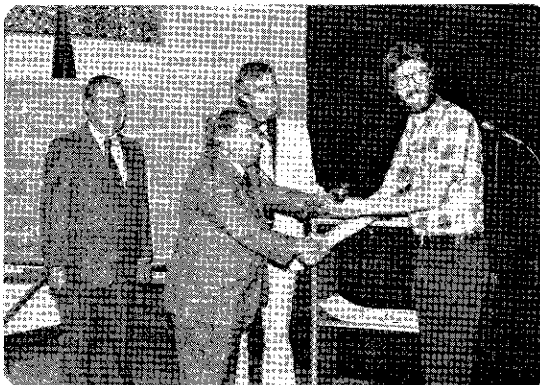


WA3AXV GETS HIS NUMERO UNO CERTIFICATE FROM W1XX



WA2DPU CHEERFULLY ACCEPTS NUMERO DOS

AWARDS



VHF SS GAVEL NUMBER 21 FOR THE PACK-RATS W3KT, JESSE BIEBERMAN, DIRECTOR ATLANTIC DIVISION MAKES THE PRESENTATION TO STEVE SIMONS, WA3WAS, 1981 VHF SS CHAIRMAN. W3ABC, HUGH TURNBULL, VICE DIRECTOR AND JOHN LINDHOLM, W1XX APPROVE.

AWARDS

ARRL NITE

Fotos by Dick Boyle, K3IGX

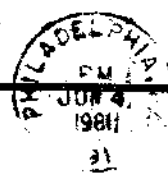
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