PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX CLUB CALL: W3CCX



MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

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 SCANNED TO PDF BY BERT, K3(UV, 20)

VOLUME XXII

JUNE, 1980

NUMBER 6

THE PREZ SEZ

Deja vu. It seems like I've written my last Prez Sez once before. Guess it's time to ove on though it's been a busy and exciting two years for the Pack Rats. Keeping in mind the rimary goals of the Club, to promote activity on the VHF/UHF bands, and to promote technical and operating excellence by staying abreast of the latest technology, and propagation techniques on the VHF, UHF and microwave bands, we have made great studies in the last two years. The Pack Rats continue to run 5 nets every Monday night, with the six, two, and 432 nets now being held on SSB for increased coverage. We have upheld our VHF Contest leadership position by winning January Contest gavels 19 and 20, and placing top in our division and second nationally in June for two years. The Hamarama has become one of the biggest and best ham flea markets in the East and the Eastern VHF/UHF Conference is quickly becoming one of the best technical get togethers in the East, with better programs and greater attendance each year. A great number of Club members have upgraded their stations with homebrew solid state equipment on all bands 50 through 2304 Mhz. As seen on February's "Home Brew Night" home construction is alive and well in the Club. Many Club members made WAS on 50 Mhz this last year and the list of operating achievements goes on and on. Obviously, the Club principles are being upheld.

But we can't rest on our laurels. It's easy to get complacent especially when there is so much work to be done and relatively few people to do it. So where do we go from here? For one thing, we need new members, dedicated VHF enthusiasts, or hams who want to learn about VHF and UHF techniques. These people are out there and recruiting them is vital to the continued existence of the Club. We need to push towards operation on the higher frequencies. 1296 and 2300 Mhz are like the 6 and 2 meter bands were when the Club was founded. We need to get more members on these and higher bands because thats' what VHF and UHF is all about - exploring the frontiers! Let's all try something we never tried before. Moonbounce, meteor scatter, a new band, a new mode - lets challenge ourselves, not sit back there with our TS700's and 220 FM rigs and work across town! The last and most controversial thing I want to say concerns VHF contests, in which, lets face it, the Pack Rats are heavily nvolved. Lets' set our minds to it in the coming year and GET RID of FM operation in VHF Contests. You've heard me say it before but I'll say it again, FM operation in contests is completely contrary to all the Club principles I mentioned above. Lets' try to get the League to outlaw channelizing FM operation in VHF contests, if they will not lets' try anyway to (CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

Pack Rats CHEESE BITS is a publication of THE MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC. Philadelphia, Pa. and is published monthly.

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DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

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W2EIF, Joseph Kilgore #5 Sunnybrook Court Stratford, N.J. 08084 609-783-9478

CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3CL, Harry B. Stein

OFFICERS: 1979-1980

PRESIDENT: W3HQT, Bill Olson VICE-PRES: W3IIT, Harry Brown COR. SECY: WB3HHO, Paul Randolph REC. SECY: K3IGX, Dick Boyle TREASURER: K3GAS, Doc Cutler

DIRECTORS:

W3HMU, Tony Souza (Ex-Officio) N3AHI, Jim Holt (2 years) WA3NFV, Dan Mitten (2 years) WA3JUF, Dave Mascaro (1 year) WA3WAS, Steve Simon (1 year)

MONDAY NIGHT NETS:

7:30 PM - 144.2 Mhz AM/FM/SSB

8:30 PM - 50.2 Mhz AM/SSB

9:00 PM - 222.98/224.58 Mhz FM

9:15 PM - 1296.3 Mhz CW

9:30 PM - 432.1 Mhz CW/SSB

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W3IIT WA3NFV

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

TUNE:

- Delaware County ARC First Hamfest, Ridley Junior High School, DuPont and Free Streets, Ridley Park, Pa. Info: DCARC, P.O. Box 236, Springfield, Pa. 19046
- Manassas Hamfest Prince William County Fairground, Manassas, Virginia Info: WA4GFG, P.O. Box 1255, Manassas, Virginia 22110
- The sewing machine was invented in 1857
- 3 To our Southern Friends Jefferson Davis's Birthdate
- 4 Any weddings to buy presents for????
- 8 Milton ARC Hamfest, Allenwood, Pa. Info: WA3IJU, R.D. #1, Box 381, Allenwood, Pa. 17810
- Board of Directors Meeting QTH, W3IIT, Harry Brown, 3012 Potshop Road, Norristown, Pa. If lost phone 927-6471. Directors and interested parties always invited to attend. Come out, see how the club is run and offer your ideas and suggestions.
- 12 Abner Doubleday invented the game of Baseball 1839
- 13 FLAG DAY Display America's symbol proudly!!
- 3-15 JUNE VHF QSO PARTY The Club will be operating W3CCX at Hilltown, Pa. Many hands and bodies are needed to help in setting up, operating and clean-up. Contact Jim, N3 AHI, Bill, W3HQT or Danny, WA3NFV.
- 15 FATHERS DAY First Celebrated in the year 1910
- General Club Meeting Southampton Free Library, Street Road, Southampton, Pa. 8 P.M. ELECTION NITE plus surprise. The Mario Raffle, Frankie's Silent Auction, Refreshments. An open meeting to all amateurs and friends
- Summer begins The Moon is at its apoges Midsummers Eve. The nite of the occult. Bring on the iced tea and lets have a barbecue....
- 28-29 Field Day Open to all Amateurs. Put your VHF station on the air. Keep the bands active and give out points to our low band brethern.
- Full Strawberry Moon. If you don't know what this means, ask any farmer!!

ARRL BULLETIN NR 49 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT MAY 15, 1980 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT: The AMSAT PHASE III satellite has been integrated to the European Space Agency launch vehicle at the Kourou launch facility in French Guiana. The fairing assembly has been installed and the software loaded into the onboard computer. The umbilical cord installation and the arming of the kick motor are the only major checklist items remaining. The Launch Day Window is from May 20 to May 28. The Launch Day time is from 1130 to 1430 UTC, with the most probable launch at 1130 UTC on May 23. Amateurs are encouraged to monitor 28.880, 21.280 and 14.280 MHz to issist AMSAT in passing pre launch traffic. Latest bulletin mailed to CBS was Nr 37.

NEW PRODUCTS TO INTEREST TO HAMS By Lyn, W3NSI

- 1. ATV RECEIVING CONVERTER: Aptron Labs has a UHF ATV converter that tunes from 420-450 MHz. with an IF output on either chan. 2 or 3 for use with any TV. An RF stage is built in, as i the AC operated power supply. Cost \$88. F.O. Box 373, Bloomington, Ind. 47402
- 2. ICOM IC-2A RT 2 METERS: The new IC-2A is just about the size of the other very small HTs such as the Tempo S1 and Yeasu FT 207. Like these units it is fully synthesized and has an output of 1.5 Watts of 2 meter RF. The big difference is the price. The new ICOM sells for \$229, at least \$70 cheaper than either of the other two above. A "rubber duckie" antenna is included which plugs into the BNC antenna fittings on the top of the unit. Three battery packs are available. The small unit is standard (250 Mahr). All packs snap on and off the bottom of the unit.
- 3. 1296 TRANSVERTER: M&M, RF distributors are selling the SOTA Comm. Ltd. 1296 transverter. This unit is made in England, and, as expected, is all solid state. The input stage is the popular MRF 901 and the NF is rated at 3 DB or less. Output from the transmitter section is 2 watts. Up to 100 Mw. of drive is required on either 28 or 144 Mhz. (50 Mhz is available on special order). Size is approx. 7"x2"x10" Price \$500. 2786 Kurtz St., Suite 4, San Diego, CA. 92110

* * *

Now, the popular HAMTRONICS Transmitting Converters and heavy duty Linear Power Amplifiers are available as complete units, in attractive eggshell enameled aluminum cases, with BNC connectors for exciter and antenna connections. These units, which are compatible with virtually any ten meter or two meter ssb, cw, or fm exciter, provide an rf output of 30 to 45 W p.e.p. with as little as 1 mW input. Models are available for 432-450 MHz, which includes operation on the new phase III OSCAR, and for 6 meters and two meters. These units provide a versatile arrangement for getting on either satellite or terrestrial operation.

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* * * *

The nominating committee presented at the May 15th meeting the following slate of officers for the Term 1980-1981:

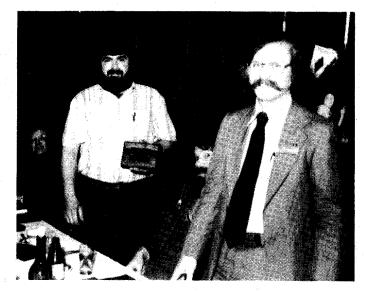
President: Harry Brown, W3IIT
V. Pres.: David Mascaro, WA3JUF
Cor. Secretary: Steven Simon, WA3WAS
Rec. Secretary: Richard Boyle, K3IGX
Treasurer: Doctor I. Cutler, K3GAS
Board Member, 2 year term, William Smith, WA2DPU
Board Member, 2 year term, Joseph Gardecki, K3NHX

Additional nominations may be made from the floor prior to the election at the June meeting.

NOTICE

The following are deliquent in their dues: W3ELX, K3EOD, K3HIN, K3IPM, K3IQO, K3NMN, W3QB Regular members \$8.00; retired members \$4.00.





HOMEBREW PLAQUES PRESENTED TO WASWAS AND WASJUF BY VP HARRY BROWN WASLIT



MC W3CL PRESENTS OUR PREZ W3HQT WITH THE PACK RAT OF THE YEAR AWARD



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ACHIEVMENT PLAQUES CHEERFULLY ACCEPTED BY N3AHI AND K3NHX AS W3HQT LOOKS ON

VHF/UHF REPORT By Jo, W2EIF

The activity continues to be low on all bands. The six meter band should begin to open for E skip by the 2nd week in May, however, have not heard much to indicate that Es is really starting. But don't go away, it does occur each Summer. Although the Es is supposed to be less intense during the peak Sunspot periods, there will still be some good Es openings this year.

Net activity seems to be down this year and the reason is not very clear. Maybe people are a little tired of Ham Radio?

There was an Es opening on May 4th for about 2 hours with good contacts to points South and on May 11th there was an aurora in the PM but nothing of great interest.

There does not seem to be any particular desire by the League to improve the population at the low end of 220 MHz. I would suggest that possibly the contest rules should be changed to lower the value of points per contact made on FM and to increase the value of 220 contacts made via CW/SSB on the low end of the band. This plus the publishing of some articles on solid state transmitting and receiving converters, and final amps would, in my opinion, increase the use of the low end of 220, generate new equipment and activity which hopefully would extend to periods between contests. As a start, they could make 220 FM contacts with 1 point and the low end contacts 6 points. This value could be revised downward as the activity picked up. Its only an idea, but something should be tried rather than sit with folded hands!

RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN ATTN: DAVID EVANS, GENERAL MGR

Assume the balance of ur visit in the U.S. went well. Pls again accept the thanks of the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club in Phila. for attending and speaking at our meeting. Ur remarks, particularly those concerning U.K. Amateur work at 10.5 GHZ were most interesting. In fact, as a direct result of same, several of our group are already working toward a similar SSB system to that u described. Cud u suggest a source for twt's over there? We are running into problems finding these devices here at reasonable cost. We are hopeful that somehow, the certificate presented you will in a small way reward the effort in the U.K. on 6 meters. Again, many thanks for ur visit. 73, Jim Holt, N3AHI

For the Attn of Mr. Jim Holt:

Many thanks for your 6th May telex and 'Cheese Bits' showing the photographs. You 'did' need a shave. When I got back here I ran straight into the RSGB annual exhibition (our equivelent of your Dayton) and this kept me fully occupied for a week. I am just catching up on correspondence. I was most impressed with the Pack Rats of Philly and hope for a longer visit in the future. A copy of the 6 meter cert. is being sent to about 400 RSGB officials. I expect it will also be published in our magazine. I have passed your tlx re twt's to our microwave expert Dr. Dain Evans and he will telex a reply. Thanks again and keep in touch. Do you have the transistor application notes? Did Dave copy the additional microwave data to you? Tell Dave to hurry up with the telex. 73 to all Pack Rats. David Evans, G3OUF

HAMARAMA AND MID-ATLANTIC STATES VHF CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

1980 October 4, 5

1981 October 3, 4

1982 October 2, 3

1983 October 1, 2

1984 October 5, 6

* * :

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: (Estate W3CLT) Swan 350C-w/ xtal ral. & 117XC PS w/spkr, \$300. Swan 250 - 6 ter xceiver & 117XC PS w/spkr, \$250. Astatic D104-Mike & stand, \$30. CDE-TR-44 rotor \$70. Hammerlund HQ 200, Johnson Viking Navigator, \$50. Rola 6 - ANB-Hi headset. Mosley TX 33JR Tribander \$90. Hi-Gain 64B-6 mtr beam \$40. KLM 144-148 - 11 el. & balun \$50. 220 MHz 'J' ant.(By W2EIF) \$5. 1966 Thru 1979 QST's complete \$1.00 per year. Prices subject to Dicker!!

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pad, 1.5 watts output. Bought new in July 1979 -

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CONTACT: Earl, WA3QWO Phone: 215-343-0459

FOR SALE: SB101A 6 mtr. transceiver w/ps and spkr; D-104 deskmike - manuals - good condition.

\$250. CONTACT: WA30VH, Pere. Phone: 215-886-1859

6th ANNUAL EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE By Bill Olson, W3HOT

This year the Eastern VHF/UHF Conference was held at the Sheraton Inn in Boxborough, Mass. The facilities were excellent though you had to be careful you didn't get lost in the palm tree jungle on the way to breakfast! The Saturday program, put together by Joe Reisert, 'JR, was varied and included talks by Lew Collins, WIGXT, on high power tetrode amplifiers, downer from Siliconix on VMOS at VHF, WIJR on the latest VHF and UHF preamp designs, Dick Turin, W2IMU on a novel parabolic disk design for EME, and Reed Fisher, W2CQH on RF radiation hazards. After an overpriced banquet dinner that left everyone wondering when they were going to bring on the main course, Ed Tilton, W1HDQ, gave a propagation update. The prize drawings were next and everyone won a prize - thanks to the excellent work of Larry, K1LPS, prize chairman. On Sunday there was noise figure measurements 50-2304 Mhz by Bob, W1XP, an Oscar Phase 1TI talk, and an EME forum. After lunch in the rain, I don't know whether WA2ZZF got his 70 CW antenna measuring set up going or not.

As usual, the best thing about these conferences is having time to talk to old friends who one hasn't seen in person for a year or two. A great deal of information is exchanged and everyone has a great time. I'll be going up again next year if anyone needs a ride.

* * * TID BITS

Many Pack-Rats remember Doc Nichols, W3JAY, (fondly referred to as the "Blue Jay of Happiness") Doc is now living in Beach Haven Gardens, N.J. under the call of W2GJB. He sends his fondest regards to all his old friends.

Doc, K3GAS, attended the Pa. State Dental Association meeting in Pittsburgh from May 11 to May 14, 1980.

We are happy to report that Carl Croce, K3DLS, was presented with the "Silver Beaver Award" by the Phila Council Boy Scouts of America on May 12, 1980 Dinner. Congratulations for receiving the highest National Honor, Carl.

Pete, WA30VH, has gone overboard with a new hobby - Tropical Fish. You want to see some nifty acquariums drop in to his QTH in Glenside, Pa.

Be careful when around Ian Janssen, the 9 year old son of K3QQ. The lad has obtained his and Belt in the martial arts; going for the Black!

FOR SALE: (Estate W3SMK) Heath SB-102 xcvr

w/hp - 23A PS in SB-600 spkr \$350. Heath SB-610

stand \$25. Heath 1M-11 Vtvm \$25. Heath AR-2 swr

monitor scope \$70. Heath HDP-21A desk mike &

bridge \$12. Kenwood TS700A 2 mtrs, all modes

\$400. Astatic JT-30 mike & stand (new) \$10.

Swan swr-1 swr meter \$18. National 190 rcvr

w/spkr \$100. NPC Electronics 103 R.S - 13.5

PS(new) \$15. Viking II xmtr; Viking II VFO; Viking 6N2 xmtr & converter, Viking 6N2 VFO -

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CROSSBANDERS MEET AT MECCA By Jim Holt, N3AHI

As I was looking forward to a pleasant weekend attending the recent Northeast VHF Conference (See W3HQT's report), I was doubly pleased to receive an invitation to drive to ARRL Headquarters the Friday before the Conference in order to meet AI, G3FXB and Brian, G3ZQW (of 50/28 MHz crossband fame last Fall).

It turns out that they were in the U.S. to attend the Annual Dinner of the F.O.C. (an exclusive CW operators Club), and were visiting the League that day. WiHDQ, KIBXC, KIZFE, WIRJA, W3XO and WIHX were also on hand. Shortly after introductions, our host Dave, K1ZZ suggested lunch nearby and all then spent a few hours together talking six meter DX.

While Al and Brian related some really interesting (and sometimes humorous) stories, the message I got was that they were just as excited about the whole business as we were, and that they're ready to go at it again this Fall; Mother Nature permitting.

THE PREZ SEZ CONTINUED

remain true to the goals of the Club. If we stop using it and play it up maybe all the true VHF'ers will follow suit. Everyone is just doing it because everyone else is. Or maybe it's time to switch our big "Field Day" operation to the August VHF Contest where the real VHF/UHF operators are. I don't know what all the answers are, but I think it's time to make a stand and WE can do it!

I'd like to thank Harry Brown for an excellent program, Doc for keeping track of the money, Dick for his respectfully submitted minutes, Paul for writing the letters, the Board for all their ideas and support and Harry Stein for spiritual counseling! Good luck to the new administration and see you all in the front row, Hi everybody!

73, Bill, W3HQT

* * *

TID BITS CONTINUED

Bill Smith, WA2DPU is coaching a little league baseball team - good show Bill, even if it cuts in on your Ham Radio!

We were saddened to hear that Bill Murphy, K3BJG of Drexel Hill, Pa. became a Silent Key. Many Pack-Rats knew Bill personally.

Received a letter from our Florida rep K4AWS who reports an FB article on the peak year of sunspots in the May 5, 1980 issue of U.S. News & World Report.

A loyal friend of the Pack-Rats Joe, W3TEC, sent along a note and a tech. article. Thanks Joe - we wish you the best.

Cheese-Bits printing now has the feminine touch. Our printer's new "Devil" is Lynda. work Ralph!

Our Sunspotter W2AXU reports the monthly mean number for April 1980 is 166.6 - The smooth number for September 1979 is 157.0.

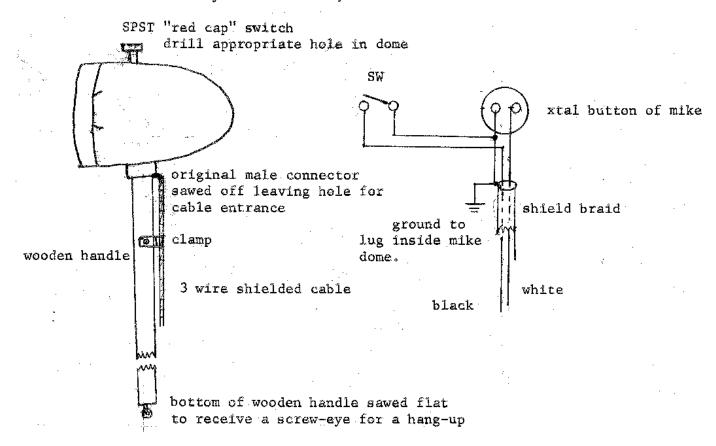
* * *

ARRL BULLETIN NR 50 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT MAY 20, 1980 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT:
There is still time to register your public service net for the upcoming ARRL Net Directory.
Form, CD85 or equivalent may be used for this purpose. A sample registration form appears in
May 1980 QST, page 88. Net Directory information should be directed to the ARRL Communications
Department, 225 Main Street, Newington, Ct. 06111. The deadline is the first of June AR.
ARRL BULLETIN NR 51 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT MAY 20, 1980 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT:
FCC has announced it will begin using new Amateur Radio examinations at all Commission offices
effective June 1. The new examinations are based on FCC study outlines which appeared in
May 1980 QST, pages 55-58. All classes of license, Novice through Amateur Extra, are affected.

* * * *

LEE'S JOTTINGS

A MODIFICATION FOR THE JT-30 MIKE by Joe Zukauskas, W3TEC



A number of JT-30 mikes are still in use and the above push-to-talk modification makes for ease of operation.

* * *

LAST MINUTE INFORMATION FROM JIM, N3AHI TO REMIND YOU THAT THE JUNE VHF QSO PARTY WILL BE UP AT HILLTOWN, PA. ADVANCE PARTIES WILL BE AT THE SITE, A RECREATION FIELD, LOCATED ON RTE. 152 -LIMEKILN PIKE - THE TELEPHONE NUMBER THERE WILL BE 215-822-7110

* * *

Special note to Lenny, W2GGB who would like to get in touch with Doc Nichols. Doc's QTH as follows:

W2GJB, Dr. George J. Nichols 210 E. 27th Street Beach Haven Gardens, N.J. 08008

THE RANDY BYNUM STORY ACT II

The March 1980 issue of Cheese-Bits carried the first story of theproblems encountered by Randy Bynum, WB2SZK. To refresh your memory, the real trouble started in Nov. 1979 when he was summoned into Winslow Township, New Jersey Municipal Court accused of violating a local nuisance ordinance. A neighbor claimed interference to their television sets, organetc. He was found guilty and fined \$250 plus \$25 costs. On December 1979 the township adopted the following ordinance:

SECTION I: That Chapter 50, Peace and Good Order of the Code of the Township of Winslow be and the same is hereby amended to include the following sections:

Section 50-10.2. Interference by Radio Transmitter. It shall be unlawful for any person to transmit, continue or cause to be transmitted or continued any radio emission, signal, or transmission which either causes or creates electrical, visual or audible interference, or, be said transmission annoys, disturbs or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace, safety or general well being of others within the limits of the Township. Examples of violations of this Ordinance, though not limited to the below, would be radio emissions, signals and transmission interference as follows: 1) The transmission of radio signals and/or emissions causing any interference upon the visual and/or auditory operation of television in such a manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants; 2) The transmission of radio signals and/or emissions causing any interference upon the visual and/or auditory operation of receiving sets, musical instruments, phonographs or other machine or device designed for the production or reproduction of sound in such a manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants.

SECTION II. Severability. Should any section, part or provision of this Ordinance be held unconstitutional or invalid, it shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof other than the part so held unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION III. When Effective. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon public hearing and final passage in accordance with law.

Bynum now was forced to hire an attorney who obtained an interim injunction halting possible prosecution under the new ordinance. the Judge

A Superior Court hearing was set for March 28, 1980 at which time/after hearing Bynum's side was not satisfied with the evidence. The Judge granted a Continuance and requested more detailed information. He was looking for the law which by the authority of Congress the Federal Communications Commission had full control of all matters related to radio; he wanted to find apecific verbage stating federal pre-emption of the matter. Apparently, there is only implied control written into the law.

There was a return to court on May 2, 1980 at which time the Superior Court Judge upheld the township ordinance. Now Bynum must go to the Appeal process probably to Federal Court. His attorney working closely with the ARRL's Robert Booth, is preparing the necessary documents. Contributions for the initial legal fee came from the local ham community and now we must ask for additional support as follows: Make checks payable to Harry B. Stein, W3CL 2087 Parkdale Avenue, Glenside, Pa. 19038 (Make notation on the check - The Randy Bynum Defense Fund)

If the New Jersey Superior Court ruling is allowed to stand, then every state and local government may pass legislation to control radio communications. They would have the right to assign frequencies, regulate emmissions and hours of operation; ad infinitum. Communication anarchy! We will keep you advised.

* * *

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