

PACK RATS'



PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

CHEESE BITS



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, K3HJV, 2012

VOLUME XXII

AUGUST, 1980

NUMBER 8

THE PREZ SEZ

I wonder at times when looking back at contest logs, listening to others in the pile-ups during openings and during general operating, why a lot of the local VHFers aren't Packrats. It's likely that they haven't been asked to join us and they possibly don't know much about us except we're the ones that somehow supply a lot of QRM during the January VHF Sweepstakes. The next time you're rag chewing with your buddy, invite him to share in our activities and get to know us better.

Besides the January contest, there are a lot of activities that we enjoy that are worth reviewing. We do a lot of homebrewing individually and as a group in club projects. Examples are the 2 meter transverters and the 1296 loop yagi antenna. Our February "Homebrew Night" reflects all phases of VHF technology with a lot of non-vhf activity also. Since we do a lot of homebrewing, there have developed a lot of sources for hard to get components within the club and it's likely that someone has what you've been looking for or where to get it.

We conduct nets from 50 thru 1296 Mhz every Monday night - how many clubs approach this? If you're trying to get a signal to tweek up that preamp or converter, you have a handy source every net night (and at about any other night for the asking). For the 2304 Mhz crew, W3HMU is even trying to get a net going or was (he may be hard at work now working on restoring another car). The June VHF QSO party is another event that we all have fun at. It's a lot different than January and we operate as a "VHF multi-multi". The question that always comes up is: Are we going out to win or are we going to have fun? We always manage to have fun and sometimes even win and are rarely out of the top 3 in the country.

Other club activities are Hamarama in October and the Mid-Atlantic VHF Conference. They've been growing from the start and give us a chance to find some great bargains at the hamfest (as well as replenish the club treasury) and to learn and share with vhf'ers from all over the East at the technical conference.

So now you've been reminded of what to say when you're asked what the Packrats do besides the January Contest - We do all of the above plus many more things. The most important thing is that we do these things for FUN and want others to join us to have FUN. We enjoy all of these activities and the work that goes into them and we want to share them. Invite your buddies to join us.

73, Harry, W3IIT

P.S. Don't forget the UHF Contest coming up and there will be a few rats operating from "rare" coordinates.

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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We operate on an exchange basis with other publications. Anything that is printed in CHEESE BITS may be reprinted, unless otherwise stated, provided that proper credit is given.

SWAP SHOP ITEMS - NO CHARGE

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

EDITOR:

W3CL, HARRY B. STEIN
2087 Parkdale Avenue
Glenside, Pa. 19038
215-887-5052

PUBLISHER/SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER:

K3GAS, DOC CUTLER
7815 New Second Street
Elkins Park, Pa. 19117
215-635-1078

PRINTER:

WA3FOF, RALPH ALEXANDER
215-276-4185

TYPIST:

WA3TEM, MARSHA LISSAUER

TRUSTEE OF CLUB CALLS (W3CCX-WR3ACD):

WA3AXV, RONALD WHITSEL
215-355-5730

AWARDS CHAIRMAN:

W2EIF, JOSEPH KILGORE
609-783-9478

CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3CL, HARRY B. STEIN

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 K3IUV
9:30 PM - 1296.025 MHZ W3CXU
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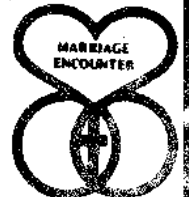
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TONY AND JAN W3HMU DOUG AND WENDY WB3KES
HARRY AND ROSE W3IIT DAN AND LUCY WA3NFV

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
Syllabus By Lee, K3MXM

AUGUST

- 1 Lammas Day, all over England, celebrating the first grain Harbesting
- 1-7 SWOT Contest (Side Winders on Two) a week long contest. Full info July QST Pg. 78
- 2 ARRL - UHF Contest, See July QST Page 72
- 3 Shenandoah Valley ARC Hamfest, Berryville (Winchester) Virginia. Info. Box 119ZA, Winchester, VA 22601
- 3 No vacation yet...better hurry
- 7 US Marines land on Guadalcanal 1942 - where has the time gone...
- 10 Annular Solar Eclipse
- 12 Hay fever season begins - sniff said....
- 14 Social Security Act Begins 1935
- 14 Board of Directors Meeting - QTH, W3CL, Harry B. Stein, 2087 Parkdale Ave., Glenside Pa. 215-887-5052. Directors and interested persons always invited to attend.
- 16-17 New Jersey QSO Party. All bands.
- 16-17 Super Scarafest '80. North Haven, Conn.
- 16 Ramapo Mt. ARC Hamfest. Am. Legion Hall, Oakland, N.J. Info: Bud Hauser, WA2JUO
- 17 Maarc Hamfest, 309 Drive-In-Montgomeryville, Pa. A nice local hamfest not too far to drive and worthy of your attendance..All day. Nice prizes.
- 17 New Delmarva Hamfest, Gloryland Park, Bear, Delaware. Info: Steve Momot, K3HBP.
- 21 General Club Meeting, Nostalgia Nite, QTH, K3GAS, "Doc" Cutler, 7815 New Second Street, Elkins Park, Pa. A good fun nite, films, slides, special commentary by our own W3CL, food and drinks. Be sure to bring the wife and kids... Don't forget, bring a chair!!
- 21-24 Personal Computing '80 Phila. Civic Center, Free Seminars, Mfg. displays, Robotics Contest, Computer Music Festival, Computer Visual Arts Festival. Info: Personal Computing '80, Rt. 1, Box 242, Warf Rd., Mays Landing, N.J. 08330
- 24 Gloucester County ARC Hamfest, Gloucester County Community College, Sewell, N.J. Info: Bob Grimmer, KN2QWO
- 30 EPA Section Basket Picnic, Tuscorora State Park, Tamaqua, Pa.
- 31 A good Contest if the bands are right - Worked All Britain Contest, VHF
- 31 York Radio Club Hamfest.
- COMING UP -- September 13, 14, ARRL - VHF QSO PARTY

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. PORTABLE COUNTER: The Trionyx TR 1000 is a 7 digit, compact (3 3/4 x 5 x 5 1/2) battery operated counter covering the frequency range 10 Hz to 600 Mhz. A demo unit was borrowed from Hamtronics of Trevoze, Pa. for evaluation. The TR1000 package includes a set of nicad batteries and AC P.S. charger unit, also a whip antenna that plugs into the front panel jacks. One jack is for the low freq. range up to 50 Mhz, the other goes through the prescaler to cover up to 600 Mhz. The counter is well built, with a thick aluminum case, and good quality circuit board. Sensitivity is rated at 15 mv at 30 Mhz and 50 mv at 450 Mhz. Stability is rated at 1 PPM from 20-40° c-which is about par for counters in this price range. The on/off switch is in back, which may not be so handy when used on a shelf, but would not be a problem the way a small counter like this would tend to be operated. Price \$159. 6219 Coffman Rd., Indianapolis, Ind. 46268.

2. KENWOOD TR 7800: The latest FM rig from Kenwood has some interesting features. There are 15 memory channels with battery backup, so that the rig may be moved from car to fixed operation without loss of set-ups. The built-in keyboard is used for frequency selection, memory programming, scanner control, and autopatch operation. Transmit power is 25 watts in high and 5 watts (adjustable) in low. An LED bar meter is used in place of the usual analog instrument to read S meter and RF output. Push buttons on the Mic control up/down freq. scan in 5 or 10 Khz steps. Mode on this radio is FM only. Cost \$400.

* * *

LEE'S OBSERVATIONS

Another reason you can't take it with you...it is usually gone long before you...
What's so wonderful about a candidate running for office? I do it every morning.
Overheard - I'm one of those older guys who still enjoy dancing - provided I can get a seat near the stage....

For you hi-fi buffs - ACOUSTIC - what you use to shoot pool....

A minister told his congregation that there are 700 different sins received 46 requests already for copies of the list....

Some More Famed Laws

Weaver's Law = Every time you buy something, the manufacturer comes out the next week with a new improved model.

Ross's Law = Bare feet magnetize sharp metal objects so that they always point upward from the floor - especially in the dark.

Buxbaums Law = Anytime you back out of your driveway or parking lot, day or nite - there will always be a car coming or a pedestrian walking by.

Ginsburg's Law = At the precise moment you take off your shoe in a shoestore, your big toe will pop out of your sock to see what's been going on...

Gold's Law = Everyone knows what Gold's Law is - it's shredded cabbage....

de Table Talk

* * *

ARRL BULLETIN NR 76 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT JULY 17, 1980 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT: Attention repeater enthusiasts. The deadline for registering your repeater for the next edition of the ARRL Repeater Directory is November 1, 1980. Please register your repeater on form CD 240, available for an s.a.s.e., to insure the accuracy of the new edition. Send all information to the ARRL Communications Department, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 AR.
ARRL BULLETIN NR 77 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT JULY 17, 1980 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT: The FCC has adopted formal rules for the Amateur Satellite Service. The new rules are primarily those which were proposed in Docket 19852 with minor modifications. See Feb. 1980 QST, pg. 80. The new rules will be effective no sooner than 30 days from their publication in the Federal Register, a date not yet determined. Details will appear in September 1980 QST AR.

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Complete 220 Mhz station; R-48 rcvr w/pre-amp; xmtr and P.S., mic, & modulator. A second R-48 rcvr available. FM Navy rcvr w/ P.S. (2 to 20 Mhz) Anilmore xmtr - 2 tube xtal control w/P.S. Box of tubes, some ancient vintage. These items located at K3GAS QTH.

CONTACT: John Tate, K3KTY
Phone: 215-673-8840

* * *

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FOR SALE: Icom IC 255A 2 met., 2 VFO's, 5 channel memory, scanner. \$285. Clegg FM76 220 Mhz and VHF 220 synth. \$200. Wilson 4502 HT for 450 Mhz band. Includes radio & rubber duck \$150. Regency HR220, \$130. Kenwood R-1000 gen. cov. receiver. Brand new, \$390 - sealed box. Drake C4 console complete-exec. condx. \$375. Kenwood TS 700S, 2 meter all mode, incld. .91 simplex & .52 simplex in fixed crystal positions, noise cancel mike Kenwood model MC30S operating manual & service manual \$500. Ameco pre-amp new \$35. Drake MN 2700 ant. matchbox, \$235.

CONTACT: Tony Musero, K3UKW
Phone: 215-271-8898

NEW HAMTRONICS CATALOG

Hamtronics, Inc. announces publication of a new, expanded mid 1980 catalog crammed with goodies for vhf/uhf and OSCAR enthusiasts and two-way radio shops. The 24 page catalog features a new line of Hamtronics vhf and uhf receiver converters and transmitting converters in attractive cases, new uhf fm receiver kits, new low noise receiver preamps in convenient cases, fm transmitter kits, power amplifiers for vhf and uhf, test probe kits, and many more items of interest to the active ham! For your copy of the new 5-1/2 x 8-1/2 inch catalog, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Hamtronics, Inc.; 65F Moul Rd., Hilton N.Y. 14468 or call 716-392-9430. (For overseas mailing, please enclose \$1.00)

* * *

VISITORS AT THE JULY 17, 1980 MEETING

WA3ORE, Bill Brown, Phila., Pa.
W3TWD, Richard Fisher, Jenkintown, Pa.
WB3EFO, Ed Lee, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.
WB3DAD, Joe Colussi, Ambler, Pa.
WB3JFC, Jim Colussi, Ambler, Pa.

W3BNQ, Sam Santoro, Blue Bell, Pa.
KA3AAE, Rex Thointon, Penllyn, Pa.
VK51R/W2, Alan Isaachsen, New York, N.Y.
WA3GHM, Gerd Meigel, Levittown, Pa.
YL(WA3FOF), Lynda Dowhy, Phila., Pa.

* * *

VOTED TO RETIRED MEMBER STATUS

K3IQO, Stanley Umin, 224 Park Avenue
Bristol, Pa. 19007

* * *

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

K3HW, Howard Weinstein
6769 El Cajon Blvd., #18
San Diego, Ca. 92115
466-8702

* * *

WANTED: Heath SB10 - Sideband phasing unit. CONTACT: Tom Hoyer, WB3FED
2024 Jenkintown Road
Glenside, Pa. 19038
Phone: 215-887-7989

* * *

From HR Report: HELEN HARRIS, W1HOY and VHF/UHF pioneer W1FZJ's widow, is back in the U.S. from Puerto Rico and reported quite ill. Get well cards can reach her at Causeway St., Medford, MA 02052

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Jo, W2EIF

The six meter band has not produced as many Es openings this year as compared to the last two years. However, it is claimed by some sources that Es declines during high sun spot periods, so maybe theory is being confirmed. There have been a few good openings but not as might be expected.

According to W2AXU, there has been considerable sun spot activity in July with SID's and Flairs, but no aurora or associated activity on the bands.

July 14 produced an opening to the Midwest which was good thru 432. The band was open on the 13th late and on the 14th early AM. ZB2BL was in on 6 meters on the afternoons of the 15th and 16th. He was worked by many on the East Coast the evening of the 16th also.

July 17th produced what may be the best Es session of the year for 2 meters. The band was open to ARK, OKLA, and TEXAS from about 1730 to 2030 GMT. After a fade out of about 2 hours, the band opened to IOWA, MO, KAN, NEB and South Dakota and very strong signals were available until about 0230 GMT on the 18th.

The signals seemed to be better from the Midwest to the Northeast states. South Jersey seemed to be on the fringe as usual, but I was able to work all the states from Texas North to South Dakota.

NOTE: It is reported that VELASJ worked across the North Pole to JA9 on July 18, 1980 at 2300 GMT.

* * *

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE JUNE VHF QSO PARTY

<u>BAND</u>	<u>CONTACTS</u>	<u>SECTIONS</u>
6	497	51
2	530	23
220	96	15
432	101	22
1296	19	8
2304	7	4
10 GHZ	2	2
	<u>1252</u>	<u>125</u>

Tentative Score = 200,000 plus

* * *

TID BITS

Congratulations to K3HW, Howard Weinstein and Mildred Diamond on their marriage on June 29, 1980. They are living in San Diego.

Helen Brick, fondly known as "Mother Rat" sends a correction - "The Pack Rats will be 25 years old on May 15, 1981 - not April -- I was there"!!!

Jo, W2EIF is feeling better every day - he has a wrestling bout with his Chiropractor every Monday and Friday.

WA3AAJ, Jim Ward and family visited the Ontario Science Center in Canada on a recent vacation - Jim gives the place an FB upcheck.

Our printer, Ralph, WA3FOF, showed up at our last meeting with his girl friend Lynda - Nice couple!

W2AXU reports the monthly mean number for June 1980 was 157.2.

Alan Isaacsen, VK5IR/W2 (ex VK5ZEI and 8P6EN in the Barbadoes) visited with us at the White Elephant Sale and Auction at our last meeting. Alan reports he will be stationed in New York for the next two year period and will try to visit us again.

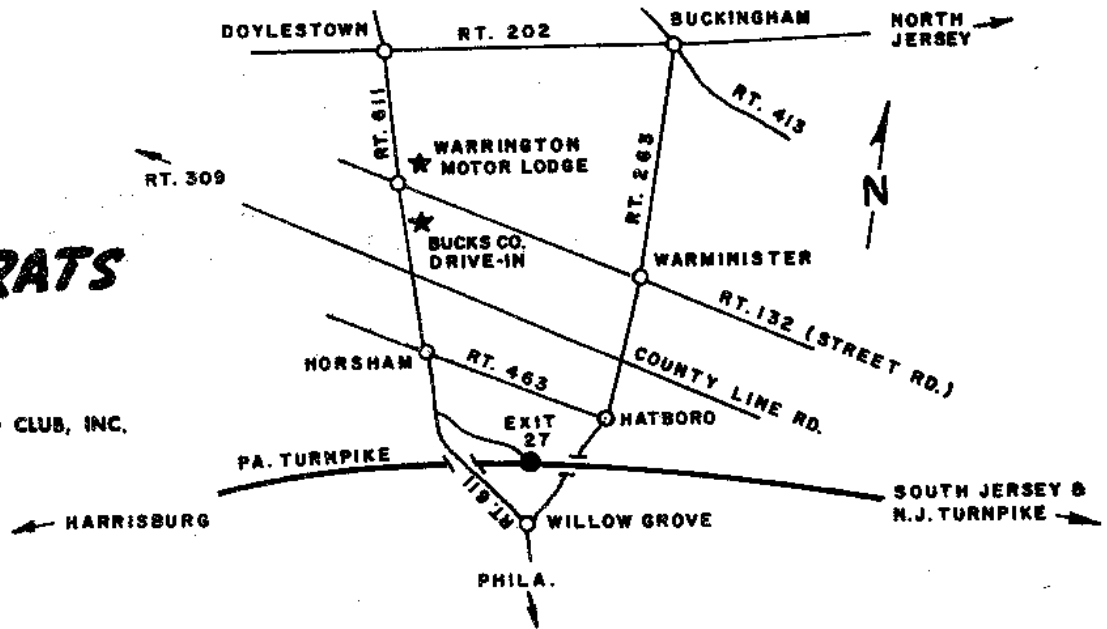
Jim Bowman, K3OBY reported in the hospital last month is now home and feeling better.

Congratulations to Doc Cuder, K3GAS, who was honored with Life Membership to the Phila. County Dental Society.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Howard Buerger, W3BAH in a car accident on July 21, 1980. He was an early day member of the Pack-Rats and the founder of the radio supply store under the name of "Ham" Buerger, Inc. now located in Willow Grove, Pa.



MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.



HAMARAMA '80

AND
MID-ATLANTIC STATES VHF CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 4-5, 1980

CONFERENCE—SATURDAY OCTOBER 4, 1980
FLEA MARKET—SUNDAY OCTOBER 5, 1980

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