

# PACK RATS'



# CHEESE

# BITS



## PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PA. ARNS  
50.2, 144.2, 221.4, 432.03, 1296.03; Repeater - 222.98/224.58 (WR3ACD)

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

VOLUME XVIII

DECEMBER, 1976

NUMBER 12

### THE PREZ SEZ

December - the end of the year, a time for finishing jobs and also a time for recollections. For the Club, it has been a banner year, starting with the winning of the 16th gavel in the January Sweepstakes, a victory in the June QSO Contest and the Moonbounce Expedition to Columbia. Through the fine efforts of the HK1TL Team national recognition has been accorded the Pack Rats in the many magazine and newspaper articles. We all thank and salute the team.

The New Year will be soon upon us and it is going to be hard to find toppers. For starters, the January Contest is the number one project. There is roughly a month to go and should you need help - there are many willing hands and minds available, starting with your co-ordinator.

The best of the Holiday Season to all the Club members, their families and our friends and may 77 be the Year of seeing all your wishes and desires fulfilled.

73, Lee

\* \* \*

### IN MEMORIUM

FRANCIS DARCY BRICK, 1910 - 1976

Frankie, W3SAO died the morning of November 16, 1976. He was one of the founders of the MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, serving many dedicated years as secretary, publisher of CHEESE-BITS, and later as club historian and keeper of the archives. He was a devoted family man, an elder in his church, and an active member of the RED CROSS DISASTER SERVICE. His basic aim in life was to serve mankind and God. His physical being is no longer with us, but his spirit will live in our hearts.

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

Subscription Rate - \$1.50 per year.

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.

EDITOR:

W3CL, Harry B. Stein  
2087 Parkdale Avenue  
Glenside, Pa. 19038  
215- TU7- 5052

PUBLISHER/SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER:

K3GAS, Doc Cutler  
7815 New Second Street  
Elkins Park, Pa. 19117  
215- ME5- 1078

PRINTER:

K3IGX, Richard Boyle  
7915 Bayard Street  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19150  
215- 927- 6471

TYPIST:

WA3TEM, Marsha Lissauer

\*\*\*\*\*

TRUSTEE OF CLUB CALLS: W3CCX - WR3ACD

W3SAO, Francis Brick  
821 W. Lindley Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19141  
215- DA4- 7524

AWARDS CHAIRMAN:

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

CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3SAO, Francis Brick

OFFICERS: 1976 - 1977

PRESIDENT: K3MXM, Lee A. Cohen  
VICE-PRES: W3HMU, Tony Souza  
COR. SECY: WA3NGK, Harry Brown  
REC. SECY: WA3NFV, Danny Mitten  
TREASURER: K3GAS, Doc Cutler

DIRECTORS:

WA3AXV, Ron Whitsel (Ex-Officio)  
K3IGX, Richard Boyle (2 years)  
K3JJZ, Elliott Weisman (2 years)  
W3HQT, William Olsen (1 year)  
W3YXF, Joseph Rushton (1 year)

\*\*\*\*\*

MONDAY NIGHT NETS:

145.2 MHZ	7:30 PM	W2EIF
50.2 MHZ	8:30 PM	W3CL
221.4/224.58 MHZ	9:00 PM	K3GAS
432.03 MHZ	9:30 PM	K3IUU
1296.3 MHZ	10:00 PM	W2EIF

NET CONTROL

FRIDAY NIGHT ATV NET:

439.25 MHZ	7:00 PM	WA3AXV
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NET CONTROL

PACK RAT REPEATER - WR3ACD - 222.98/224.58  
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\*\*\*\*\*

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

DECEMBER

December was the 10th month in the Old Roman Calendar and the word decem means ten - as you metric buffs know..

- 2 Moonbounce Team does it again. R.F. Hill Radio Club.
- 3 Flea Market, Friday Nite, Living Memorial Building, Livingston, N.J.
- 4-5 ARRL 160 Meter Contest
- 6 PARA Meeting, Cafeteria General Electric Space Center, Valley Forge exit #24 Pa. Turnpike. Election of officers.
- 7 Peal Harbor Day, "The Day that will live in Infamy" Does anyone forget where they were this day!!
- 9 Board of Directors Meeting QTH W3CL, Directors and interested parties invited. If Lost, phone TU 7-5052
- 11-12 ARRL -- 10 meter contest
- 14 Tuesday - quote from Old Farmers Almanac "Look for Meteorites" A special notice to those VHF'ers who work Scatter...
- 16 General Club Meeting, Closed to all but members. Final preparations for the Contest. Please make best plans to attend. Refreshments, Frankie's Silent Auction. The Mario Raffle..
- 17 Chanukah
- 19 King's County Flea Market, 900 Union Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 21 Winter Officially Begins, it is getting a little late to work on those antennas. "If that old antenna or tower needs some work, remember one of the greatest labor-saving inventions today is tomorrow" de FA
- 25 Christmas FLASH FLASH
- 31 Happy New Year - one and all... NEW ARRL 600 POINT 6 METER AWARD IN THE WORKS. FULL DETAILS IN JANUARY QST.

JANUARY, 1977

- 8-9 VHF Sweepstakes Contest ... \* \* \*

VISITORS AT NOVEMBER 18TH MEETING

K3NCC, Marty, Phila., Pa.  
 Bill Kelly, MCI, Inc.  
 K3HIN Harmonic, Louis, Phila., Pa.  
 W3NWJ, Ed, Norristown, Pa.

WA3ZXY, Bob, Norristown, Pa.  
 WA3KXC, Don, Hatboro, Pa.  
 WA3PSB, Ron, Morrisville, Pa.  
 \* \* \*

NOTICE

VOTED TO MEMBERSHIP

K3IQO Stanley Umin (Stan) XYL- Fran, K3JZN  
 2500 South 6th Street  
 Philadelphia, Pa. 19148  
 215-HO2-7584

WA3ZRE, Earl Garber is starting a Radio Club at Lincoln High School, Phila. He would like donations of radio equipment; anything-just to get them started. What say gang..chance to clean out your junk boxes.

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. CLOCK MODULE: Digi-Key Co. is selling a clock module which should be of interest to hams. First, since it is direct drive, RFI is not a problem. The MA 1001A has four digits and needs only to have six switches and a small transformer wired in to be operated. Unit could be mounted in a small wood or metal case. The small size of the unit (3" x 1 3/4" x 3/4") make it just fine for mounting in a piece of equipment or a station console. Available with or W/O the switches and transformer, it is suggested that one pay the extra \$3.45 for these items since the transformer is rather special. Price \$9.50 With switches and trans. \$12.95 Digi-Key Corp. P.O. Box 677, Thief River Falls MN 56701 (P.S. A good company to deal with - No problems)

2. KENWOOD 2 METER T/R: Kenwood will introduce a new FM rig for 2 meters in December. The TR 7400A is a synthesized, dual power (10 & 25 watts), compact unit covering the entire 144-148 Mc band in 5 kc steps. Four switches are used to set frequency. The first selects the Mc range such as 145 Mc. The second switches, in the 100Kc segment, while the third switch selects the 10 Kc range. A button is used to control the 5 Kc split. Readout is on a 6 digit LED display. Both plus and minus 600 Kc repeater offsets are built in and front panel selected. Price \$400 Trio-Kenwood Comm. Inc. 116 E. Alondra Gardena CA 90248

\* \* \*

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Jo, W2EIF

The VHF/UHF bands continue at low activity levels. But contacts can be made particularly on 2 meters almost any evening within a radius of 300 miles of Phila. Six seems even worse than it was last year and even when skip is in, which is not very often lately, there are not many signals. There is a group who are always on the bands and we have to thank them for keeping up the activity. K1PXE and WA1FFO are very active, for example, running good power and good antennas so can be contacted over 200 miles most of the time regardless of condition, time of year, etc.

One should remember that December should produce some 6 meter openings. This is the result of a small Es Peak which occurs as a result of the Es Peak in the Southern Hemisphere as of December 21. A sort of back door effect if you will.

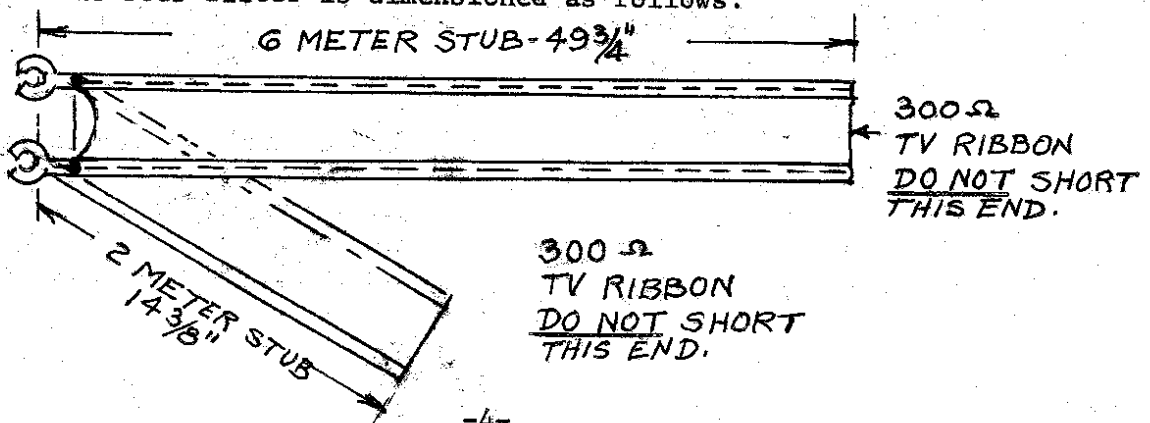
I have received a letter from W3AED = Paul McGee of Maryland, who is anxious to find someone to try 10-10.5 GHz. I will give our editor the letter; maybe he will print all or part of it for those concerned.

\* \* \*

TVI COMPLAINT -CURED, By Jo W2EIF

I recently received a notice from the FCC that I was interfering with a local TV receiver. Consultation with the complainant revealed that I was bothering the UHF channels when on 50 MHz. The complainant's receiver is 300 ft. from me. He uses a VHF TV beam pointed at me but his UHF ant. is the usual loop on the set at ground level.

It was apparent that the VHF ant. was picking up the 50 MHz signal and coupling it into the UHF input signal leads. I prepared some open ended stub filters as per the sketch and connected them to the VHF ant. terminals of the receiver. I then made tests with the complainant tuning all VHF and UHF channels. There was no interference anywhere running the following power on 2 and 6 meters: 200 Watts AM 2 meters (145.2) Mhz; 200 Watts AM 6 meters (50.2) Mhz; 800 Watts (DC) SSB 2 meters 145.11 Mhz; 800 Watts (DC) SSB 6 meters 50.12 Mhz. The stub filter is dimensioned as follows:



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<p>(609) 424 - 4258</p> <p><b>GREENTREE PRESS</b> Business cards - Envelopes QSL cards - Tickets - etc -</p> <p>1980 GREENTREE ROAD CHERRY HILL, N. J. 08003</p>	<p><u>A request from your AD Manager</u></p> <p><u>PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS</u> Tell them you saw their ad in <b>CHEESEBITS</b>. Leave your QSL card with them. <b>CHEESEBITS</b> is one of the best read local radio club papers. Circulation - 300</p>
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 20px; font-size: 48px; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 10px;">73</div> <div> <p><b>magazine</b> for radio amateurs</p> <p>PETERBOROUGH, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03458</p> </div> <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>1 year - \$10 2 years - \$17 3 years - \$20</p> </div> </div>	

### SWAP SHOP

**FOR SALE:** Collins: KWM-2, RF clipping, Swan AC supply & DC module \$695; 75A-4, Noise blanker, 500, 3.5, 6 KHz filters \$395; R-390A/URR \$495. Swan 250C, 117XC \$335. Clegg AM 22'er \$95. 6N2 \$65. B&W L-1000-A, LPA-MU-2 \$135. Motorola AM-494/GR 2 meter KW \$315. Ham-M rotors \$75. KLM 5 element 20 meter beam, balun \$125. Hy Gain triband Quad \$75. KLM 11 element 6 meter beam, balun \$65. Rohn 25G sections \$23. All Manuals. Other small stuff.  
**CONTACT:** K2EVW, 711 Shore Road, Northfield, N.J. 08225

**FOR SALE:** 220 Mhz 16E. Cushcraft Col. with balun like new, \$15. 2 meter J slot 8 over 8, good cond. \$20. 432 Xmitter-T44 complete with power supply and xtal for 432.02 Mhz, NBFM & CW, \$45/opr. Heath VHF-1 (Seneca) with some 2 meter xtals excellent cond. \$100.

**CONTACT:** Bruce Loss, WA3YUE, 3747 Warfield Drive Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006  
Phone: 215-947-7312 after 5 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** Link 5FRX-20-40 Mhz FM xcvr. (convertable to 10 meter FM) \$25.00

**CONTACT:** Ric Janssen, WA3UDS, Phone: 215-355-1980

**FOR SALE:** Navy RBM Rcvr, P.S. & Spkr. Plus R48 220 Mhz Rcvr. Both for \$28. Icom 22A 2 mtr FM xcvr plus 7 xtals mint cond. \$175.00; Ameco TR62 6&2 mtr xmitter and #621 VFO-good cond. \$110.  
**CONTACT:** John Tate, K3KIT  
Phone: 215-OR 3-8840

**FOR SALE:** Clegg 22'er MKII AM, AC/DC, VFO, mike and manual, 40 watts - asking \$150. Yaesu FTV-650 6 mtr transverter, 6146 final, 100 W. PEP SSB, CW, AM & FM with 10 meter drive - from Yaesu and or other low band rigs. Cables, manual, asking \$150.00

**CONTACT:** Dan Kernan, WA2KOK  
RTI-Box 310 Front St.  
Vincentown, N.J. 08088  
Phone: 609-463-2074 after 5 p.m.  
609-983-1117 - 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** Halicrafters HT-40, AM/CW Xmitter, 80-6 Mtrs. 75W. Lafayette 6&2 VFO, D-104 Mike, Extra Xtals. \$80

**CONTACT:** Lee Cohen, K3MXM  
Phone: 215-ME5-4942



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—Guru Maharaj Ji

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CONTACT: Jim Perkins, W3SMK  
1335 Jericho Road, Abington, Pa.  
Phone: 215-886-5489

FOR SALE: Galaxy GT 550 (SSB) with mobile mtg. bkt, CG 1000 D.C.P.S., Spkr and mike. Huetler ant. and bumper mnt. with 15,20, 40, 80 Mtr. resonators. Mint cond. asking \$400.

CONTACT: George Hautenchild, W3KD  
Phone: 215-357-5091

FOR SALE: Heath - DX 60 B xmtr & HG-10-5 VFO and Heath HR 10-B rcvr and spkr. (10,15,20, 40, 80 Mtrs) All band vert. ant. plus lots of components thrown in. Mint cond. used only 4 mo. must sell, asking \$150.

CONTACT: Stanley Litt, WN3VZR  
2206 Longshore Ave., Phila., Pa. 19149  
Phone: 215-DE 8-3121 after 6 pm on weekdays

WANTED: Drake TR 3 or TR 4 with 120V AC P.S in good condition.

CONTACT: George W. Lake, K3MYK  
1802 Allen Lane, Abington, Pa.  
19001

Phone: 215-OL 9-0749 Ask for George

FOR SALE: Swan 240, AC, P.S. & Spkr. 20,40, 80 mtrs. upper and lower sideband.

CONTACT: Dan Mitten, WA3NFV  
Phone: 215-277-0972

FOR SALE: 1 KW 2 mtr. amplifier, pair 4CX300 tubes plus spares. \$225.

CONTACT: Pete Shayney, WA3OVH  
Phone: 215-886-1859

\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*  
The following is quoted from a letter received by Jo, W2EIF from Paul Magee, W3AED, R-2 Box 432, Berlin Md. 21811.... "We have worked out 1296 here, so moving on up, and we do not see any reason to stop at 2304 or 5600, so went on up to 10. to 10.5 GHz. Three of the local Hams interested and want to go along with me.. Our reasons for going all the way to 10. instead of stopping along the line at 2304 etc., was the antenna size. All you ever require for the 10.GHz is a 3' parabolic.... The receiver, home made, is easy to build if you know a few of the fundamentals. I believe I know them by now and will be glad to pass them along. Would be pleased to hear from you."  
\*\*\*\*

A SEPARATE VHF/UHF ADVISORY Committee is being urged by an increased number of VHF/UHF Dxers and experimenters. VRAC is concerned primarily with repeaters, and non-FM VHF/UHF buffs feel they need representation with the ARRL that more nearly reflects their interests. Let your directors know how you feel about establishing a new advisory committee....de HR Report  
\*\*\*\*

TID BITS

Jim, W3SMK back in the Abington Hospital and making good progress. He has been heard from his bed-pan special on the Pack-Rat 220 repeater. At this writing, he is expected home shortly.

Thanks to Bill Kelly of MCI, Inc. of Phila. who gave an instructive talk at our November meeting on Long Distance Telephone Circuits via Microwave Links.

Nice to see Dick Bokern, WB9PUJ our Indiana Pack-Rat at our November 18th meeting.

A successful convertor/preamp workshop was held on Saturday, November 20th at the QTH, WA3AXV. Many thanks to those that provided the fine test equipment for the evaluation. Report in Jan.

The Commission has amended its rules by reducing from 12 to 6 (an original and five) the number of copies of papers required to be filed in FCC rulemaking proceedings....de ARRL

Editors note: The following story was related to Doc, K3GAS and myself the morning of Nov. 10th when we visited the home of Frankie, W3SAO. He explained the 40 lb. oxygen tank in his bedroom and the associated breathing apparatus. He showed us an 11 lb. shoulder tank used when he was moving about. He asked us to check out his receiver .....Doc found that the band switch was in the wrong position. When Frankie heard the receiver come to life, he came out of the bedroom and sat at the operating position to check out his rigs. He was very anxious to operate during the Jan. 1977 VHF SS. He said his rotator was not working and we promised to look into that problem later. Except for his breathing difficulty, Frankie looked real good.

#### THE DAY I DIED (OCTOBER 20,1976)

"As you know, I have been suffering with emphysema for some time and on Sept. 4th I entered the Einstein Medical Center for pulmonary evaluation. After extensive tests and examinations, I was transferred to the Moss Rehabilitation Center on Sept. 14th. While there I ate very little because I didn't like the food and became very weak. There was an extensive gym exercise rehab program which tired me out. When I left the center I was exhausted but had learned how to regulate my breathing. I continued as an out patient until Sept. 25th."

"On Oct. 20th I had an appointment with my doctor whose office is in the Einstein. I was in a wheel chair and using my portable oxygen when I passed out. I was told later that my heart had stopped... I HAD DIED! The doctor called for the emergency crew who had to use a machine to get my heart going again. I was placed into intensive care and fed intravenously. Not too many recollections at this point..at times when I came to I would hear myself screaming -'God Help Me' over and over again. Then one day out of nowhere suddenly a thought struck me.. 'God helps those that help themselves'--After that I started to improve."

Helen wrote the following prayer for me to repeat:

'Lord hold my hand a little tighter. Let me draw my strength from thee.

In Jesus' name I pray'

"After intensive care I was moved to an 8th floor room when I became very depressed- I wanted to die - everthing seemed too much for me. The lights were turned off at night--if something awakened me, I would panic and scream for them to turn the lights back on. I couldnt stand looking into a wall mirror and made them move it. It seems that I wanted to become a martyr and trade off my life for that of my grandchild. A psychiatrist was called in and he suggested that Helen have our son Harry get here fast( Harry, a Marine Corps Sgt. stationed in San Diego).

"Harry came and through his strength and wisdom convinced me that I must live. I continued my exercises, ate the five salt free meals a day making my doctor very happy. He said he would buy me two tickets to the Flyers if I would win the fight. I was determined to do just that. I came home last Saturday (Nov.6) at 2:45PM. I am doing my twelve exercises four times daily and take my twenty walking trips here on the second floor. At Christmas time I will give back to Helen a new whole man age 66. Thats all for now.. this is W3SAO signing off."

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The Pack-Rats extend their condolences to Helen and Harry Brick. Club members attended a viewing at the Mann Funeral Home on Thursday evening and later at the regular meeting of the club Prez Lee, K3MXM led a moment of silence and ordered a page be set aside in the Secretary's note book in Frankies' memory. Herm, K3GOZ reminds us that Helen(fondly known as 'Mother Rat') was the first editor of Cheese-Bits. She ably assisted Frankie in making our Family Day and Picnic and Ladies Night such wonderful & successful events.

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Additionally, we were saddened to learn from W2AXU about the death of Bob Palmer, G5PP on October 20,1976. He was a friend of the Pack-Rats and attended a number of our meetings while visiting the States. Our sympathy to his family.

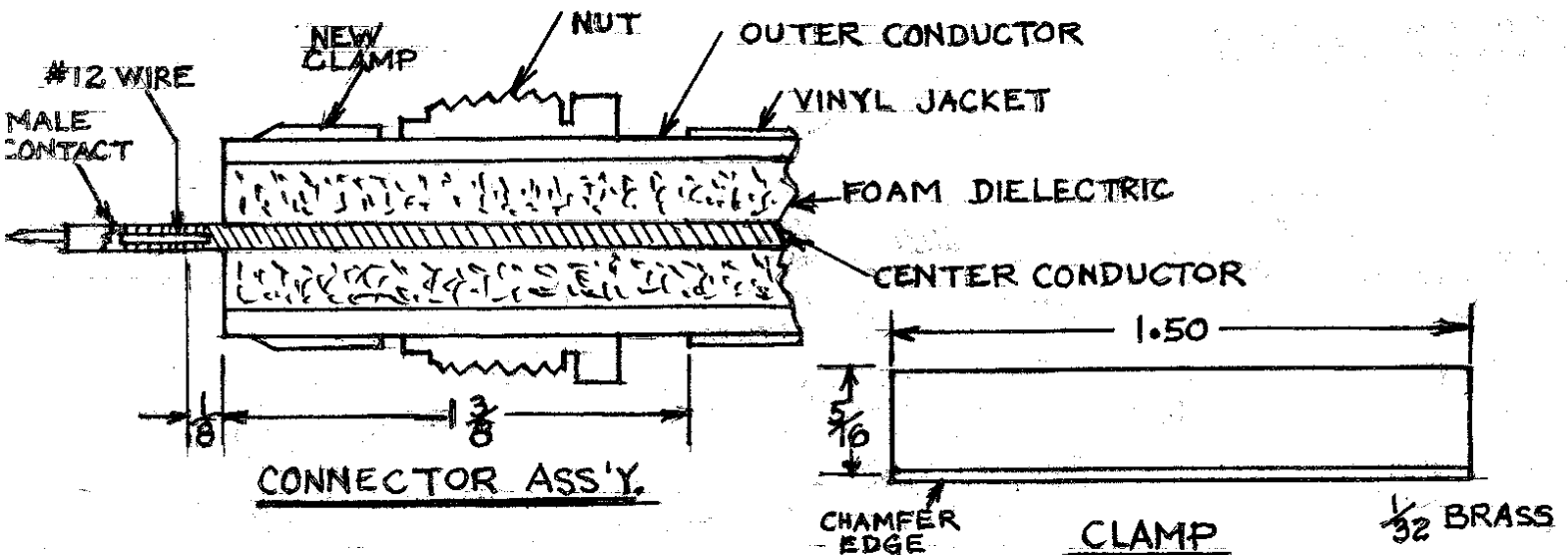
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OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 618 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT NOVEMBER 12 1976 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT The ARRL Club and Training Department has produced a question-and-answer sheet about amateur radio. This sheet can be used to explain to non-hams how to get started in amateur radio while answering the most commonly asked questions about ham radio. The free handouts are ideal to give to relatives and CBers. For your supply send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Club and Training Department, ARRL, Newington,CT 06111 AR

A CHEAP HARD LINE CONNECTOR  
by Tony Souza, W3HMU

A very inexpensive connector for 1/2 inch foam-flex 50 ohm transmission line can be fabricated from surplus type N connectors originally intended for RG-8 cable. With the availability of 1/2 inch line from recent flea markets and also the "Pack Rat Special Purchase" of a couple of years ago, many VHFers can upgrade their transmission lines. Expensive hard line connectors need not be used. Several of the described converted surplus RG-8 connectors have been used by the writer on 432 MHz through 2304 MHz with good results.

The RG-8 connectors are prepared by simply drilling out the nut to 1/2 inch clearance and making a new clamp from sheet brass stock. The connector shown in the illustration is a male UG-21 of the older type. Recognized by its long narrow body, these older type connectors used a black rubber washer instead of the newer red rubber gasket between the nut and the braid clamp. The dimensions shown are for the older UG-21 type. Newer short body UG-21 connectors with captivated contacts can also be adapted; however, the clamp dimensions will be slightly different.



To use an older type UG-21, save the nut, body and contact pin. Strip the outer vinyl jacket back 1-3/8 inch from the end of the hard line. Remove 1/8 inch of the aluminum center conductor from the end leaving 1/8 inch copper center conductor protruding. Drill out the nut to a 1/2 inch diameter hole and slip the nut over the outer conductor. Make a clamp from 1/32 inch thick brass sheet stock as shown, chamfering the edge with a file. Bend this clamp around the outer conductor with the chamfered edge toward the end of the cable. Drill a small hole in the center of the center conductor using a #45 drill. Slip a short length of #12 bare copper wire into this hole and solder. Slip the male contact pin over the #12 wire flush with the end of the center conductor and solder in place. Now assemble the connector body to the cable. As the nut is tightened, the brass clamp forward edge will be compressed into the soft aluminum outer conductor by the wedge action of its chamfered edge against the tapered insides of the conductor body.

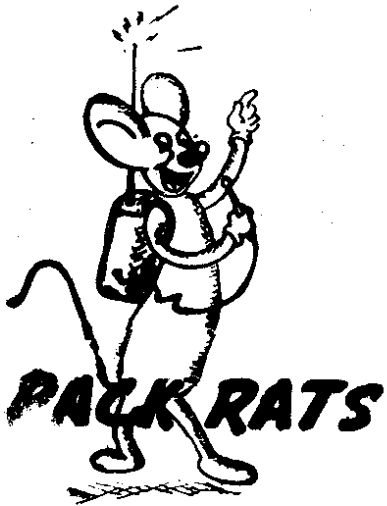
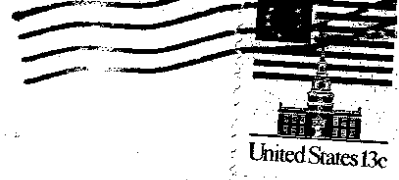
Waterproof the assembly by sealing the nut with non-corrosive type RTV silicon rubber sealant. You will now have a very inexpensive hard line connector with excellent VSWR characteristics up through 2304 MHz. Twelve of these connectors were used on the HK1TL moonbounce antenna installation. No problems!

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ANNOUNCEMENT

AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES, SPONSORED BY THE DELMONT RADIO CLUB AND THE ARRL, WILL BE HELD AGAIN AT THE UPPER MORELAND ADULT EVENING SCHOOL IN WILLOW GROVE, PA. THE CLASSES WILL BE ON THURSDAY EVENINGS WITH THE NOVICE COURSE GIVEN FROM 7-9PM, AND THE GENERAL CLASS FROM 9-10:30PM. WALLY NEWELL, K3JJO AND DON SMITH, WA3VEA ARE THE INSTRUCTORS. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT WALLY AFTER 5PM ON 215- OL9-9504.

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W3FQD Dick Huntzinger  
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