

# PACK RATS CHEESE BITS

VOL I MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
(144.2, 50.2 MCS and 220)  
SEPTEMBER, 1958

NUMBER 6

## A REPORT FROM YOUR ARRL DIRECTOR

A few issues ago, we quoted a letter received from Gilbert L. Crossley, ARRL Director, Atlantic Division, regarding the substitution of the number 0 for the letter O on the license plates. Each HAM in Pennsylvania, with the letter O in his call, received a letter from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles stating that the plates were legal, even though the substitution was made. They explained that the letter O is used only for buses and taxis, and then at the end. It looked as though everyone who applied for his call was stuck for five years with the wrong license number. It seems as though Gil was not satisfied with this decision, and the following is a direct quote from a card received from him, dated July 25, 1958.

"Dear Fellow Radio Amateur:

After 4 trips to Harrisburg for conferences, the last held July 16th, with representatives of the Tag Division, Motor Vehicles, Revenue and the Dep. Attorney General, I received, this afternoon, a phone call from Mr. Reco-Revenue stating that the previous decision relative to the substitution of the zero for the "O" has been reversed.

DO NOT WRITE - Give them time - at least a week. A letter of procedure will be sent each concerned relative to the method to be used in the plate exchange when the new plates are ready. Please be assured that all of my meetings have been very cordial. C U L 73,

Gilbert L. Crossley, W3YA/DKN  
ARRL Director, Atlantic Division"

This is only one example of what your director does for you. Through his efforts, all HAMS in Pennsylvania with the letter O in his call, who applied for plates, will receive new plates.

(Aside to Gil) We, of the Mt. Airy V.H.F. Radio Club, Inc. would like to take this opportunity to thank you for what you have done for the Hams of Pennsylvania.

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 668 FROM ARRL HDQS.  
WEST HARTFORD, CONN. JULY 24, 1958

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 662 FROM ARRL HDQS.  
WEST HARTFORD, CONN. JULY 17, 1958

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Announcement is hereby made of the addition to the ARRL Countries List of Chatham Islands, which are located in the South Pacific, approximately 420 miles east of New Zealand. DXCC credit will be given starting October 1, 1958 for creditable confirmations dated on or after November 15, 1945. Further details appear on page 83 of August QST.

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Radiation of harmonics by amateurs in violation of FCC rules continues to require attention. To avoid violations, FCC urges newer amateurs especially to make sure their transmitters are tuned to the desired output frequency and not to any harmonic. All Amateurs should also have others nearby check their signals for harmonics and send word to any heard in the 11, 5.4, 7.4 MC or other frequency ranges. Corrective measures should be taken where necessary. The Handbook and several QST articles

bear on the subject. Consult the December QST Index for these. Also note the article in August 1958 QST on antenna couplers for avoiding radiation of harmonics and other spurious signals.

AR

TVI SERVICE

Here is the information needed to give any complainant of TVI. If your complainant has:

- ROA -- "G" Street & Wyoming Avenue
- MOTOROLA -- 30th & Chestnut Streets
- ZENITH -- Pierce Phelps 5900 Upland Way
- ADMIRAL -- 12th Street & Glenwood Ave.
- PHILCO -- 2030 Upland Way
- EMERSON -- 223 N. Broad Street
- SYLVANIA -- 32nd Street & Walnut Street

These distributors will supply the complainant with a Drake Filter free of charge.

Explain to them that they must supply the distributor with the type of disturbance, call letters and model number of their set. Also explain that the best time to have the filter installed is in the evening or on a Saturday, when you are home and are able to cooperate with the serviceman.

The best thing to do, if it is your first complaint, is to have them write to Roger Phelps at the FCC, giving the same information, and have your rig cleared by a TVI Committee. If your rig is clear, the FCC will notify the manufacturer to have the set filtered.

The ARRL recommends, that by all means, you are not to touch a complainant's set.

Omitted in the above list was SILVERTONE. The owners of Silvertone TV's should contact Sears & Roebuck Service.

AN EMBARRASSING QSO

A few weeks ago, W3ISV, Syl, made a contact with K2ODN, a relative, who is a doctor. It seems that K2ODN had a medical report to make for an insurance company, and Syl, having his dictaphone at home offered him the use of it, over the air. Some of the report turned out to be of a very personal type, which was embarrassing to both Syl and Dot, his XYL.

Syl has also offered the use of his dictaphone for dictating any letters that are to be sent by the secretary, and if he is supplied with club stationery, he will have them typed up at his office and sent out.

Syl's partner, Elliot, also suggested that we start a legal column. If any member has a legal question, send it in, and they will supply the answer.

AN APOLOGY

The editor would like to apologize to the North Penn Amateur Radio Club for not having an announcement of their Picnic in the August issue of "Cheese Bits". Due to the fact that we had to put in the notice of the September meeting, there was no room for the announcement. The affair was announced on the Monday Night Nets.

SCOOP

We were informed by W3ZRR, that Mr. Welch's name is not Bob, but is Joe. I called him on the phone to confirm his name, and find out if he received his copy of the "Cheese Bits". I found that his name is Joe, and his call is, W3UQV. I also found out that he is to be married on September 13th, which will make it impossible for him to be the speaker for the September meeting, but he did promise to be the speaker for the October 15th meeting.

MISSING PERSON

On Sunday, August 3rd, while attending the picnic of the Phila. Hi-Freq. Radio Club with W3AYG, Johnny, we made contact with K3ANV, Coop, and he asked us to help locate the following HAM.

- KN3DNK -- Douglas Kirkpatrick
- ADDRESS -- Chalfont, R.D. Pa.
- AGE -- 20 years
- COMPLEXION -- Fair
- HAIR -- Light brown
- HEIGHT -- 5'10"
- WEIGHT -- 150 Lbs.

Last seen at Drexel Institute on Wed. July 30th. May have joined the Merchant Marine.

If you have any information about him, please contact his mother at Chalfont, R.D. Pa., or Coop, K3ANV, Chalfont, R.D. Pa.

HELLO AGAIN

This is as far as I got with the "Cheese Bits" before leaving for our vacation. We had a wonderful and restful time on the farm in the Anthracite region. We stopped in to see W3ZRQ, Al, from the Anthracite Wireless Asso., Tamaqua, Pa. He sure has some gear in his shack. Understand that they are working on 2 meter gear for local mobile work.

(CONT'D NEXT PAGE)

Saved \$.04 postage by telling Al that the club will swap papers with them. (Scotch, aren't we.) Aside to Al; Sorry that we didn't get a chance to see you again before we left Quakake, but we did enjoy our short visit with you and your XYL, Evelyn. The reason is that my Father hadn't been "home" for some years, and we took him around to visit most of the relatives.

Frankie stayed off the Hay and Straw wagons so that he wouldn't break another leg. He didn't do anything dangerous except dynamite rocks out of the field.

FOUND IN THE MAIL UPON OUR RETURN  
FROM VACATION

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 664 FROM ARRL HDQ'S WEST HARTFORD CONN. AUGUST 1, 1958

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT.

The Federal Communications Commission has now made final it's proposal in Dacket 11994, concerning the eleven meter band and effective September 11, withdraws 26,960 to 27,230 kilocycles from amateur use. Details in Sept. QST.

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 667 FROM ARRL HDQ'S WEST HARTFORD CONN. AUGUST 21, 1958

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT.

Check your frequency measuring skill by taking part in an ARRL Frequency Measuring Test. WIAW will transmit signals for measurement starting at 2130 EDST, September 17 on approximately 3502, 7027 and 14104 kc. Another series of test transmissions will begin at 0030 EDST, September 18, near 3623, 7112 and 14184 kc. Each participant will receive an individual report comparing the accuracy of his readings with those of a professional laboratory. Complete details in September QST.

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 669 FROM ARRL HDQ'S WEST HARTFORD CONN. SEPT. 3, 1958

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Another ARRL V.H.F. QSO Party will be held from 1400 September 20 until 2300 September 21, your local standard time. All amateurs who can work any band above 50 Mc are invited to participate. A certificate will be awarded to the top scorer in each ARRL Section, and to the high scoring Novice, Technician and multiple operator station in each of these three special categories. Log forms will be supplied free upon request. Complete rules are on page 49 of Sept. QST

AR.

FROM K3CRJ -- A BROTHER RAT

A V.H.F. CHALLENGE!

If you really want to see how far a 108 mc signal can be received, try tuning in on the 10 mw transmissions from the Satellites. One local amateur has received signals over a 4000 mile path!

It isn't too hard to change a 2M Yagi to 108 mc by slipping split tubing over the elements to lengthen them. But it will take a low noise front end converter and about the last squeak of reception technique to hear such signals.

Due to the constantly changing orbit of the Satellites, it is helpful to know when to listen. Tune in the nightly broadcast of VPO on 4275 kc at 7, 8, or 9 P.M. EST -- and you can quickly find out the best times. A terrestrial globe is useful to locate the positions given.

You will have to listen to a lot of noise, but you can finally hear the rarest of space signals direct -- and hang up your own record. And all the things you learn about improving your reception (until you hear the signal) can also be used to improve 2 meter reception too! (Thanks Newell)

Frankie, W3SAC, would like to take this opportunity to thank W3AYG, Johnny, for handling the 2 meter net while he was on vacation.

Ernie, W3KKN, would also like to thank W3CL, Harry, for handling the 6 meter net while he was on vacation.

(Stinkers aren't we? Both took our vacation at the same time.)

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Starting with this issue the subscription rate for "Cheese Bits", for non-members is \$1.00 per year. The exceptions to this ruling are;

- W1HDQ--Ed Tilton -- ARRL
- W3UQV--Joseph Welsh -- FCC
- W3ZRQ-- Allen Breiner -- Anthracite Wireless Association.
- W3YA/DKN--Gil Crossley -- ARRL Director Atlantic Division

This small fee will cost the HAM less than 10¢ a month, and will defray the cost of paper, ink, stencils and postage.

The phone exchange for W3IBH and W3AIF is changed from Te. 9 to Vi. 3.

A revised membership list will be included in the October issue.

Sweepstakes motto- "If you can keep your head in the midst of all this confusion, you just don't understand the situation."

# Picnic Report

## TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS:

We of the Mt. Airy V.H.F. Radio Club, Inc. would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your most generous contribution to our Annual Ham Fest and Family Day, held this year on Sunday, August 10th at Fort Washington State Park in Flourtown Pa.

The names of our contributors are too numerous to mention, so we are sending each one a copy of the September issue of "Cheese Bits" as a personal thank you from the club. Each contributor of a door prize received a post card from the individual winner, but the contributor of literature did not receive a post card, so we are taking this means of thanking them.

We have also sent a letter of thanks to Mr. Morris K. Goddard, Secretary of Forests and Waters, Harrisburg for the fine cooperation that we have received from Mr. Brandt Earhart and the guards.

## HEARD ON THE AIR LANES & AT THE PICNIC

W3ZRR, Ray; "My XYL and I had a wonderful time, and the location is outstanding."

W3BRU was sorry that Harry, W3CL, didn't put up his new Impala for a prize.

W1RJA & W1UWU, Ed. and Dave and their families; "We have had our Ham Fest for the year."

Mr. Marley, dispenser of the Pepsi-Cola, and his children, had a fine time, and enjoyed meeting the HAMS, especially Ken, W3CPT, who also came from Belfast, Ireland

W3IHT, Doc, got lost on the way to the park. He blamed Frankie for a poor map, but it turned out that he didn't see the arrow pointing North. He and his XYL and sister enjoyed themselves after they got there. Doc's sister said that she never met a nicer group.

We had some DX visitors, portable 3's, from W5 and W0 land. Our friend from Texas expects to be located in Washington in the near future.

K3BPP, Walt, just can't wait for our picnic next year.

K2RRG had a swell time and is looking forward to next year.

K3CHN, Seymour and his daughter had a wonderful time.

W2EIF, Joe, said he rarely has seen a picnic run so smoothly and the location

is wonderful for children.

W3FQD, Dick, stated that the boys and his XYL enjoyed the picnic. His XYL enjoyed meeting the other XYL's.

All other comments heard about the picnic were complimentary.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members and their XYL's for their fine cooperation in making the picnic a success. No matter what the directors say, it will still be known as the "Pack Rats" picnic, because everyone cooperates.

## Past Events

The August meeting was held on the 13th at the QTH of W3KKN, Ernie.

The amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws were passed and W3CL, Harry, our new President appointed K3CIV, Ralph, to be Recording Secretary.

Elected to membership at this meeting was W3ZTL, Miles Groce, 6043 N. 21st St. Phila., 38, Pa., Vi. 4-5736.

W3CXU, John, gave a very interesting talk on transistors.

Everyone had a wonderful time and sure enjoyed the refreshments served by Bert.

## Coming Events

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 17th at 8:00 P.M. at the West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center, Sedgwick and Thouron Aves. The speaker for the evening will be announced at the meeting.

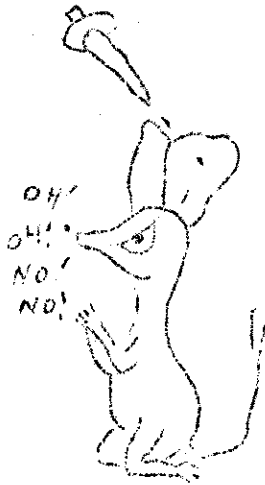
Two applications for membership will be voted upon at this meeting.

Don't forget the ARRL V.H.F. QSO Party Saturday and Sunday September 20 & 21. Who knows, the band might open up again as it did in January and you might get that state that you need for WAS.

She doesn't wink, she doesn't flirt,  
She spreads no gossip, isn't curt,  
She has no line, she plays no tricks,  
But give her time -- she's only six.

A lot of people will itch for something,  
but they aren't willing to scratch for it.

RAT  
SQUEAL  
By  
W3SAO



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W3DIR, John has lost weight and is now the thin man, and his XYL is on the way to good health. Hope to see you soon at the meetings.

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It's pink for K2LXI/3, George, and his XYL, Mae. The little girl arrived at 3:45 P.M. on the 16th of August. Hey, George, don't make a mistake and give her the mike instead of the bottle. Congratulations.

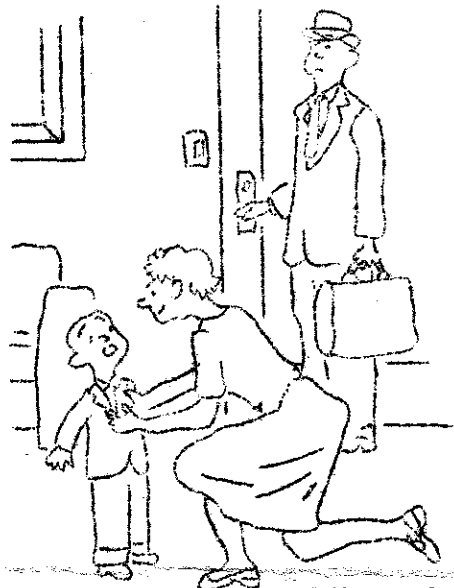
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W3JSD, our VEEP, skipped off to Washington to attend the ARRL Convention. Knowing Johnny, I'll bet he had a grand time. Let's have a report on the convention for the October issue, John.

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We were represented at the SJRA Picnic by W3CL, Harry, W3CPT, Ken and K3BHK, Jerry. I understand that W2KFC, Lee, provided you with fireworks when his balloons got tangled up in the high tension wires.

Congratulations to W3FOZ, Charlie and his XYL, Edith, on celebrating 12 years of wedded bliss on September 7th.

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DX on the 6 meter net. On Monday July 21st we were heard in Florida. It seems that our friend down there didn't want Pennsylvania so he didn't call in, but he did enjoy listening to it. The following Monday, July 28th, W4ZCG, Burt, in Virginia called in and stayed for a couple of rounds.

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Understand that W3KKN, Ernie, had a picnic of his own on August 10th. It seems that some of the HAMS on their way home just couldn't control the direction their car wanted to take, and they all landed at Ernie's.



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"I don't want to be a man like Daddy, I want to be a little boy and have fun."  
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W3KKN Ernest Kenas  
2823 Old Welsh Rd.  
Willow Grove, Pa.