



# PACK RATS CHEESE BITS

VOLUME II

MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILA., PA.  
(50.2, 144.2 and 220 MCS)

NUMBER 11

W3CCX

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## WOL HAMS PRIMED TO PREVAIL IN AIRWAVES CONTEST

By Blanche Day

If you think the female of the species is the loquacious sex, you've never encountered a group of ham radio enthusiasts at work. Women may tarry on the telephone swapping recipes and child care hints for an hour. But ham radio operators (99 percent of whom are men) will spend an entire evening chatting on the airwaves - sometimes 5 nights a week.

What do they talk about? As with the ladies, it's mostly shop talk. But instead of recipes, the hams swap electronic lore. In place of child care, they exchange advice on the coddling and care of a ham radio station.

During December, the talk reaches a feverish pitch. Big event of the year - in the lives of the nation's more than 200,000 hams - is the National VHF Sweepstakes Contest held on Jan. 9 and 10. (Note; dates are for this year.) Right now every V.H.F. zealot worth his salt is getting his set ready for the sweepstakes.

V.H.F. stands for Very High Frequency, a term applied to that region of the ether not in commercial use, which the F.C.C. has turned over to the nation's amateur operators for experimental purposes.

The elite among the local hams is the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club, Inc., a group which meets the 3d Wednesday of each month at the West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center, Thouron Avenue and Sedgwick Street.

The club was founded in May of 1956 when a group of hams met at Oscar Jacoby's home, 1618 Barringer St., for an evening of shop talk. Pooling their knowledge proved so helpful that it was decided to form a club. In 3½ years the organization grown from 11 to 80 members. (Correction here, 75 and 1 honorary member)

### NICKNAME STICKS

Shortly after it was launched it was given a nickname by which it is now better known than its formal name. One night when its members were gabbing away over the ether, a contact from New Jersey remarked: "You guys sound like a bunch of pack rats nibbling on a piece of cheese." The name stuck. They've been the Pack Rats ever since.

To qualify for membership in The Pack Rats, an applicant must be over 21 and must have an amateur radio license.

It will also be helpful if he is prepared to devote himself to his set above and beyond the call of duty during the National V.H.F. Sweepstakes Contest.

The contest, conducted annually, awards certificates of merit to the clubs making the greatest number of confirmed contacts during a specified 36-hour period.

The first year The Pack Rats competed they came in 3d.

"We had only 27 members then and were competing against clubs that had as many as 300 members on the air," boasts Frank Brick, the Pack Rats' secretary.

The 2d year, they dropped back to 5th; last year they regained their number 3 position.

"This year we're out for blood," says Frank. "We won't be satisfied with anything but first place." (Aside; Ha ha)

The Pack Rats have a 9-page monthly newspaper called - what else?- Cheese Bits. This month's issue sternly admonishes: "Check your gear now and not the Friday before the contest! Go to bed early Friday and sleep until noon on Saturday!"

Every member is expected to stick by his set from noon Jan. 9 until midnight Jan. 10. It is anticipated that wives will cheerfully (?) serve meals by the microphone. (Aside: I thought the contest starts at 2:00 P.M.)

Meanwhile, older and more affluent members are lending spare parts to younger colleagues so that their equipment will be up to par for the big event.

Most hams spend as much time building equipment as they do operating it. If you build your own equipment, you can get on the air for as little as \$150. More elaborate sets run as high as \$1000.

Ham radio clubs have a more serious primary purpose than winning contests. They are regarded by the FCC as a vital link in national defense. In the event of disaster or emergency, their potential value is incalculable.

Individual units are frequently pressed into service for help in tracking down criminals, recovering stolen cars, rounding up blood donors.

During floods and hurricanes, a ham radio set - with portable power - has often been a town's only means of communication with the outside world.

Ham operators also maintain a pipeline between servicemen abroad and their families in the States. Many a homesick lad stationed 100 miles from Nowhere has been comforted by a message from Mom conveyed for free by a dedicated ham.

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(Editor's note; There are two pictures accompanying the article. I am sorry that I am unable to reproduce them, but I will try to describe them.)

Picture #1. is a large picture showing Ossie at the mike and Frankie standing on the side. The Caption under it reads as follows;

MONDAY NIGHT is talkfest night for the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club - More familiarly known as "The Pack Rats" Oscar Jacoby (left) mans the controls at the station in the basement of his home, 1618 Barringer St., while Frank Brick analyzes the contact. Chief queries on the very high frequency air waves are: "Am I coming in clear? How's my modulation level?" The club's call letters are W3CCX. Group meets monthly at West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center.

Picture #2. is one of Harry Stein at the mike, and the caption under it reads;

Harry Stein, president of the club, exhorts his constituents to get their sets in top shape for the National VHF Contest next month. His call letters are W3CL.

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(Mother Rat's Comments) Before you pull out all of your hair trying to find out what "WOL" in the title means I will explain it. It stands for West Oak Lane, and is taken from the name of the meeting place. It's not my fault if they are confused and the West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center is in Mt. Airy, and the Mt. Airy Jewish Community Center is in Germantown.

The reason that I did not receive the copy in time for last month's issue is that the father of Ossie's XYL had a heart attack that night and he couldn't bring it down.

A little antidote on the reporter, Blanche Day. As I get it, one time she was sent to Princeton on a story and when she got there all hotel rooms were taken due to a convention. Not wishing to miss out on her story she went to the police and told them that they had to find a place for her, so she spent the night in the "Pokey".

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An apology to the ARRL. We are sorry that you were left out of the article. We are sure that it was merely an oversight. It should have read "An ARRL National Contest", but in the enthusiasm of the reporting it probably just skipped the reporters minds.

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True to form, the night of the demonstration, Ossie's gear broke down and Bob, W3GXB, had to take over the net. Just like a child when you are trying to show off how smart he is.



WHO DAT SMEL A. RHAI ?

I've Been Hoping that I Could Learn from reading his ramblings to come up with some expression of his that Could Frame Some picture in my mind of him. As you know Zey Ramble Right along from Simple Copying on to constructive operation procedure. How You Judge who it is, I shall keep trying to find out, then Too Effen I Fail, we Just Say Darn it. Perhaps, I Zed Right Quick his name, you Could Pick That out of the hat. Now What, Perhaps do you think?

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After reading the above, with eleven calls mixed in, if you know who it is, let me know. It could be one of them, or somebody I never even suspect.

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If you are unable to figure out the calls mentioned above I will list them for you.

1. W3IBH
2. W3CL
3. W3CFS
4. W3ZRR
5. W3FSC
6. W3HYJ
7. W2EIF
8. W3JSD
9. W3ZRQ
10. W3CPT
11. W3NWP

I still think it's the one with the "hole in the head".

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FROM THE MAIL BAG

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A Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring you every joy.

K9UHE & XYL,  
Ex K2UWV  
Bill & Chicken Stackhouse

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the Pack Rats. Have been looking for you all on the air since coming out here last June. How about turning your beams out this way sometime.

We specially want to thank Helen for sending us the "Cheese Bits" Paper. We enjoy it very much and look forward to receiving it each time.

73

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Bill is a former member, and as you can see he received his 9 call. If at times the band is not favorable for an eyeball QSO, a written line would help. His address is, K9UHE, William Stackhouse

Ridge Avenue,  
Aurora, Indiana,

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Hi Bill:

Is Aurora anywhere near Waveland Indiana? We have friends there and they have no phone.

You are quite welcome for the "Cheese Bits". You are a former member and we know that you would like to know what the club is doing.

From all of us here to all of you there we wish a Very Happy and Healthful New Year.

73 & 88

Frankie & Helen

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A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

K3GOW,  
Betty Riley

Thanks - Helen & Frank for paper. Enjoy it very much, will exchange as soon as we get one.-

73

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Hi Betty:

We are more than happy to send you the Cheese Bits, and we are eagerly awaiting the paper from the Wilkesbarre Club.

We would like to take this means of conveying the "Thanks" of W3KKN and W3TNP, Ernie and Bert, to you and your sister in Cleveland, Ohio, for all the cards and notes to Joanne. We saw Joanne the other night, and she looks and feels wonderful.

Wishing you and yours a Very Happy and Healthful New Year, we remain, with best 73's and 88's,

Frank and Helen

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HEARD ON SIX METERS

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W3KKN, Ernie and W3TNP, Bert endowed a wing at the Albany Medical Center in appreciation for what they did for Joanne. Joanne is doing fine.

Joey got into Ernie's rig and TV set. Uh-oh!

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Heard K3ESJ, Bill, discussing different nets on six and he stated that he liked the way that the Pack Rats net was handled.

He and a few other teenagers are trying to start a teenagers net for traffic on six each Monday night following the Pack Rats Net. As I heard it, one of the fellows was complaining about Bill holding the transmission too long. He explained that until the net is established and messages are ready to be sent he must do so. (Aside to Bill) Better change your frequency as the "Nitwit Network" follows immediately after the Pack Rat Net.) He is trying to start the net at 50.1 but if the other receivers cannot separate, then he will run into interference.

(HEARD ON SIX CONT'D)

COMPLAINTS ON NETS

Not being positive of the call I will not mention it except to say that it is a K2.

This party feels that all nets on six meters should be conducted at 52 or 53 Mc. so as to leave the low end of the band clear for any local QSO or gabfest. He states that no ham or net has control of any frequency. In this statement he is absolutely correct, but what he does not realize is that common courtesy demands that you respect the frequency of any net. He does not realize that most nets are registered with the ARRL, and that thus being, their frequency is regarded as a sacred position on the band. If it were not so, clubs would not be asked to register their nets with the ARRL. The FCC must also recognize net frequencies, or they would make a ruling that they must be held on a higher frequency. Another thing that this fellow does not realize is that in a council of clubs, should a special event or emergency arise, the council picks the club with the nets on most bands to handle the control center, knowing that these frequencies are known by most of the hams on these bands. As an example of known frequency for an emergency, take the case of the unmodulated carrier that was on for over 18 hours, on six meters. It was heard in South Jersey and the Pack Rats were called to check on it. The control was in South Jersey, but all hams checking were told to listen on the Pack Rats frequency for checks, and if possible to call in on that frequency, because that frequency was well known to the hams in this area. The Hams tracing it were not all Pack Rats, in fact one came in from West Phila. to trace it Mobile.

As it turned out the fellow's kids had turned the rig on and he knew nothing about it. He figured that he had a heart attack while operating and his XYL didn't know how to shut it off.

The main point is that if no one knew the Pack Rats frequency, which was not mentioned, we would have had a much worse time tracking it down.

My advice to K2--- is get more crystals or go VFO or stay off the air when the nets are on. Of course if he has no other crystal, and he wants to talk at that time, he could call in on the net.

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CONGRATULATIONS

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Congratulations are in order for the YL of W3HYD, Lenny. KN3KNG, Lenora. She is on two at 145.02 and she is also working for her general. Don't get me wrong. Lenny's YL is his 13 year old daughter; his XYL is Violet.

CD BULLETIN

ARRL HEADQUARTERS, WEST HARTFORD, CONN.

WINTER EDITION JANUARY 1960

3rd PARTY AGREEMENT WITH YV

This past year has seen an increase in the number of permissive agreements to allow international exchange of messages on behalf of third parties, between amateur stations. Oct QST's "Happenings" reported the details worked out between Mexico and the U.S.A. effective from 30 Aug. '59. The ONLY countries having had similar treaties with the United States are Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Liberia, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru.

As of Dec. 12, '59 add Venezuela (YV) to this list of countries permitting 3rd-party exchanges between amateurs. The bilateral agreement contains the usual broad restrictions limiting such amateur conversations or messages to purely personal and relatively unimportant matters, except in emergency. Article 42 of our basic international treaty provisions (excepting for just such special agreements) forbids amateur stations to engage in any international communications for third parties.

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ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS of the FCC are expected by some to be stricter, starting Jan. 1, when FCC sections concerned expect increased appropriations for this. Amateurs should always be careful to respond promptly to any FCC notices that may require this. W6MLZ, SW Div. Dir. ARRL, regards S-1737, a bill in House Committee after Senate passage and which would provide cash penalties for certain FCC rule violations in the common carrier and safety and special fields, ANOTHER good reason for more self-monitoring of our frequency bands.. He would place emphasis on Harmonic Elimination, power observance, off-frequency, and identification requirements (among 12 items listed). ARRL DD's please note.

F.E. Handy, W1BDI  
Communications Manager

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TO TRAIN A NOVICE IN THE WAY HE SHOULD OPERATE, DO IT THAT WAY YOURSELF OCCASIONALLY!--The Bison

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AN APOLOGY IS IN ORDER

I would like to apologize to all who did not receive the January issue. What happened I do not know. I do know that Frankie mailed them on December 21, 1959 at the Ivyland, P.O. The Postmistress was angry because she had to handle them, and she said, "You want me to do all the work, but I didn't get the postage money." Now, come to think of it, Frankie

bought the stamps there on the 17th of December. It takes me one full day to address them and put them in packs of zone, city and state so as to save the Post Office the time. Why should she complain? That is her job and she is being paid for it.

It just seems funny that the reports of not receiving it came from outside of Philadelphia.

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#### NOTICE

As you saw when you opened this issue, it is a BIG ONE, so I will dispense with "MOTHER RAT SQUEALS" column, but I will give you the report on how our ill members are doing.

W3MVF, Dave, his XYL and Jr. Op are coming along fine.

K3CIV, Ralph, after two weeks in Temple Hospital is now in Florida taking it easy. Should anyone care to drop him a line here is his address;

K3CIV, Ralph Hersh  
c/o Paul Hersh  
1470 S.W. 47th Terrace  
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

W3DIR, John, and his XYL have returned from the hospital and are feeling pretty good.

W3DRC, Tom, had a bout with pneumonia but is now better and back to work.

W3FOZ, Charlie is coming along slow but sure. Hope those muscles get straightened out real soon, Chas.

Ev, the XYL of W3IBH, Charlie, is doing fine now and is back to work. If you have been wondering why you have not heard Charlie on the air, he is busy painting the inside of the house.

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#### LADIES NITE IS COMING

KEEP YOUR EARS ON THE NETS AND YOUR EYES GLUED TO CHEESE BITS FOR THE DATE SOMETIME IN APRIL.

SAME PLACE AS LAST YEAR, SOUTHWARK AC

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#### REPORT FROM GENEVA

WE KEEP OUR FREQUENCIES ! ! !

As most amateurs know, during the past four months delegates from more than 80 nations have been meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, for an Administrative Radio Conference of the International Telecommunications Union. The purpose of the conference is to examine and revise the world's radiocommunication regulations, last established at Atlantic City (1947), in the light of new developments and requirements in the intervening twelve years. The complexity of the task can perhaps be illustrated by pointing out that in the United States, for example, groups of government and industry communications experts commenced preparatory work more than three years ago, and

that 30 government delegates plus up to 50 industry consultants and advisors have been attending the conference in Geneva to represent our country and to negotiate an outcome satisfactory to the needs of our various radio services. For the few amateurs who may not realize it, let me point out once again that your League, as the representative of the amateur radio service, has participated in every relevant aspect of the domestic preparatory work and in the entire conference proceedings, with four other League officials present at various times in Geneva in addition to my own full-time attendance.

As I write, the conference is drawing to a close. All matters of substance have now been decided. Dozens of study groups and special "working parties" assigned specific tasks have, during the past month, completed their complex jobs and reported to subcommittees, which in turn have reported to parent committees. Continuing this process, the main committees have finally reached agreement on their particular portions of the huge volume of regulations and final decisions have now been made by the Plenary sessions.

Thus for the first time it is now possible to state, with certainty, the outcome of this conference as far as the amateur radio service is concerned. As the culmination of three years' formal preparatory work and four months' intensive participation by the League in the conference itself, it is with considerable gratification that we can report to amateurs that the Geneva 1959, radio regulations will continue provisions for every frequency assignment now available in Canada and the United States.

A subsequent issue of QST will carry the complete and detailed story. It will outline the numerous proposals of some other countries for major cuts in amateur frequency bands, and describe how these proposals were eventually defeated - at least as concerns their direct effect in our own portions of the world. It will, regrettably, have to report a few instances of reduction of amateur privileges in certain other parts of the globe, although in my opinion the amateur body in general made out quite well internationally, considering the obstacles it had to face. It will also report on the brilliant and obviously effective manner in which our United States delegation, as a closely knit team of capable experts, carried its assigned task to a successful conclusion.

December 10, 1959 A.L. Budlong  
General Manager ARRL

From January QST Page 64A

Read "Strays" on page 65 for changes made in Russian Amateur Bands

## ETHEREAL AVOCATION

from MD, DECEMBER 1959

Submitted by Doc, W3IHT

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When a hurricane roared into the north-eastern United States four years ago, ripping out bridges and toppling telephone and power lines, the only means of communication for a time were a group of the country's most professional amateurs: "ham" radio operators.\*

During the floods in the northeast in 1936, the Ohio valley flood of 1937, in California the following year, the 1947 Texas City explosion, radio amateurs were the only link between stricken communities and the outside world.

Amateurs were first to demonstrate the practicability of short wave radio by bridging the Atlantic in 1921; they developed the noise-suppression devices now standard on better radio; frequency modulation (FM) was invented by an amateur turned professor.

\*The term is thought to be derived from the cockney pronunciation of "Hamateur."

HAM HISTORY. News in 1901 that the young Italian Guglielmo Marconi had transmitted the letter "S" from Cornwall to Newfoundland (2107 miles) sent thousands of amateurs electricians rummaging for ways to duplicate the astonishing feat. Transmitters were then cumbersome and noisy, spark coils were operated by a mechanical interruptor and battery current.

In the years before World War I the air became a mad jumble of dots and dashes as operators jammed one another in frantic contest for the uncontrolled ether. Marine operators often kept battle appointments at docks to settle arguments that began with jamming incidents during a voyage.

Anyone who could build or buy the required equipment could put up a station, transmit whenever and whatever he wished. Call-letters were self-assigned, generally the initials of the station owner.

This bedlam was gradually reduced, beginning with federal registration in 1912 that limited hams to 1000 watts of power, confined them to the 200 meter wave length, then considered worthless for commercial purposes. Also all stations and operators had to be licensed.

The Amateur Radio Relay League was formed in 1915 to promote amateur interests, organize them to relay messages over distances impossible for a single station to span. Two years later the first coast-to-coast relay took place, demonstrating the value of

amateurs as a stand-by communications network.

Commercial broadcasting started with a few amateurs who played phonograph records over their transmitters; the first broadcast station in the United States (KDKA, Pittsburgh) owned in 1921 by the Westinghouse Company, was the former amateur station 8XK, owned by Frank Conrad, a Westinghouse engineer.

In 1927 the federal Radio Act established a commission to classify stations, allot frequencies and police the air waves. The same year the International Radio Telegraphic Conference convened in Washington, produced an international agreement reserving specific portions of the radio spectrum for amateurs.

HAM FACTS. At present the United States has about 200,000 radio amateurs, of whom about 2000 are physicians; some 5000 are women, the rest of the world has about 60,000 amateurs. New amateurs are licensed at the rate of about 1000 per month in the United States.

To get on the air a ham needs two licenses; one for himself, another for his station. The simplest type of amateur license is the Novice Class established in 1951. Required is the ability to send and receive five words per minute in International Morse Code, plus an elementary knowledge of radio regulations and theory. The license admits the amateur to the less desirable low frequency amateur bands not suitable for great distances and limits his station to 75 watts.

A standard amateur license requires the ability to send and receive 13 words per minute and a more comprehensive knowledge of radio.

Call letters for individual stations are assigned by the Federal Communications Commission at the time the operator's license is issued. First letter of the call indicates the nationality of the station; in the United States: "W", "WA", or "K".\* Following the first letter is a numeral identifying the Federal Communications district in which the station is located.

\*Stations operated by novices are designated "WN", "WV", or "KN".

The Federal Communications Commission maintains a number of monitoring stations to watch amateurs; it frowns on off-frequency operations, excessively wide signals, improper language, interference; licenses of persistent violators are revoked.

Most hams nowadays buy factory-built receivers which can be capable of tuning in on the whole radio spectrum;

## ETHEREAL AVOCATION (Cont'd)

the cost may range from about \$50 to more than \$600.

Most amateur transmitters are home-made, often put together from ready-to-assemble kits supplied by radio manufacturers. Prices range from around \$50 for a do-it-yourself kit to \$2000 or so for a complete, high-powered outfit similar to that used by commercial broadcasting stations.

Since power alone counts for little on short waves, the average amateur transmitter uses about 200 watts. Round-the-world contacts on five to ten watts (far less than the average light bulb) are fairly common\* while one Texas amateur contacted five of the six continents with a transmitter having power of one-tenth of a watt.\*

There are no restrictions on topics that amateurs may discuss in the United States, except for obscene or profane language. Amateurs in some other countries face more stringent regulations, often are limited to discussion of matters directly related to radio.

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\*Roughly equivalent to the amount of electricity generated in combing the hair.

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All countries prohibit broadcasting information for the general public; American amateurs are also forbidden to transmit music.

By common consent amateur conversations usually steer clear of controversial topics; most often center around the hobby which brings them together. A notable exception: a San Francisco amateur in 1928 lectured a fellow ham in Pomona on the virtues of presidential candidate Alfred E. Smith, later learned that he had been talking to Herbert Hoover, Jr.

Many amateurs specialize in "handling traffic," i.e., transmitting or relaying messages free of charge for the general public. Others are called DX hounds, constantly fiddling with knobs and directional antennas in search of the elusive, seldom-heard amateur on the opposite side of the globe. Still others are content to sit for hours chatting with persons they have never seen.

But both code and voice messages are liberally sprinkled with three-letter symbols for commonly used words and phrases making up the international Q-Code, much of it a legacy of the days when all radio transmission was in code. Examples: QTH means "where are you located?" QRT is "Shall I stop sending?" or "I must stop sending." QRX means "When will you call again?"

American operators have added a number of symbols of their own: any male operator is an "OM" (old man), a "YL" is a young lady operator (regardless

of age), becomes an "XYL" after marriage. The numerals "73" mean "best regards," while "88" translates "love and kisses."

Common practice among amateurs is to confirm radio contact by exchanging "QSL" cards by mail; cards carry station call letters, information on transmitter and receiver employed, condition of reception, other data, often bear brightly colored illustrations. Hugh collections of "QSL" cards tacked on the walls around the ham's "rig" are his hallmark.

Long recognized by physicians is that amateur radio is particularly valuable in rehabilitation work; veterans' hospitals have used it as a therapeutic adjunct for many years; for many (especially the blind) it is one of the few avenues of contact with the outside world.

MEDICAL HAMS. Among the 2000 or so physician-amateurs in the United States, psychiatrist J. Lawrence Evans (W2B8K) likes his hobby because it can be indulged in at any time, regardless of weather. Physician James R. Savenich (K9QBD) feels that amateur radio provides an opportunity to meet people in all walks of life.

An amateur station set up at the recent American Medical Association meeting in Atlantic City by Dr. C. L. Samuelson (K2SVD) attracted the 150 physician-amateurs attending; it handled hundreds of messages and contacted 26 states.

Sidelines for hams are amateur television and radio teletype. Thus far there are no commercially built amateur television sets corresponding to the amateur communication receiver; only one or two amateur television transmitters have been put in operation. Amateur radio teletype, less suitable for the rapid exchange of information, comments, greetings, apparently attracts only the inveterate radio experimenter.

Long before the first earth satellites were launched radio amateurs had extended their hobby into outer space, bouncing radio signals off the moon and back. American satellite projects often enlist amateurs around the globe to assist in tracking operations; many amateurs have reported the signals from various Soviet satellites.

SUMMING UP. Once considered somewhat crazy, radio amateurs are today a sober community.

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(Editor's note) I found the preceding article highly interesting and very informative. I did, however, find one mistake in it, which I am sure was not intentional. He referred to the ARRL as the Amateur Radio Relay League, instead of American.



SWEESTAKES HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations, out of 75 members 70 were in there pitching.

K3BGT, K3CIV and W3CXU were in there doing their part even though they were sick.

Poor Walt, W3KLL, was all set to get in there and give it all he had. He is a trouble shooter for a battery company. He had his rig all checked out and even borrowed a VFO so that he would not be rock-bound. Yep- you guessed it, Friday January 8th, the company sent him to Florida on a job. Sorry Walt, better luck next year.

All who were on know what happened to Frankie. He was using the rigs before the contest and five minutes before the time his six meter transmitter blew up. Later the send-receive switch froze and he couldn't turn the two meter transmitter off. Thanks to W3OJ, Ray, whom we hadn't seen for five years, Frankie was able to get back on. Ray loaned him his Halli-crafters SR 34AC. While leaving Ray's QTH there was a step in the cellar entrance that Frankie did not see, and down he went, rig and all. He came home with all the knuckles on his right hand bleeding, the right knee out of his trousers, and the knee bleeding. When he made that statement, "We're out for blood", in the article from the Germantown Courier, little did he realize that the blood would be his own.

We would like to pay a special tribute to our new members for the fine job that they did.

Our total score is 000,000. Ha-ha. We can't tell you what it is, because at this writing, Jan. 15, we do not have all the scores, but we can tell you that it is much better than last year.

As a member of the totalization committee, I would like to make a request on their behalf. PLEASE when filling in the report include your total hours of operation, and the line-up of your rig and save us the trouble of calling you on the phone for the line-up. If you don't know what this committee does I'll explain it.

Each member gets so-many score sheets to check. We take a ruler and go down each sheet to make sure that it is correct. If when we come to the bottom we find that the total hours are not filled in, we must go over it a second time to see how much time you were not on and subtract from the total hours of the contest. Remember, when you make up the score sheet you only have one; while we have anywhere from 50 to 70, and that is a lot of extra work. You have a couple of weeks to do it while we only have one night.

!!! EXTRA SPECIAL NOTICE !!!

Be on the look-out for;

ONAN 3.5 KW. 1 PHASE 60 CYCLE GENERATOR

STOLEN LATE IN OCTOBER FROM A PHILADELPHIA C.D. HEADQUARTERS

PAINTED GRAY

NAME AND SERIAL NO. MAY HAVE BEEN REMOVED

If located contact the Philadelphia Police, LO. 7-5100, or Philadelphia C. D. Headquarters.

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DVCARC MEETING JAN. 14th

At the meeting held on Thursday, Jan. 14th the By-Laws were presented to each club present.

Election of Officers were held and the following were elected;

Chairman; Harold Carr, W3JFI (BCARC)  
Vice-chairman; John Harris W3AYG, (MT. Airy)

Rec. Sec.; Ken Harrison, W3CPT (DELED)  
Cor. Sec.; Lloyd Sherman, W3COY  
& Treas. (PHILMONT)

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The Council will participate in the Boy Scout Jamboree to be held July 22, 23 and 24, 1960 at Belmont Plateau.

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The next meeting will be held on Thurs. April 14, 1960 at Germantown Town Hall, Haines Street and Germantown Avenue, at 8:00 P.M.

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HIGHLIGHTS B. of D. MEETING

Due to attending school W3IXL, Ellis, tendered his resignation as a director which was accepted. W3DL, Harry, then appointed W3JSD, John, to serve out his unexpired term.

A tentative date was set for Ladies Nite, April 30th. Awaiting confirmation of the Southwark A. C.

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The Bucks County Amateur Radio Club is holding its annual banquet on the 9th of April at the Fiesta Restaurant, near Cornwells. Tickets \$.00 each. Anyone interested, contact K3IDK, Fenton Glazier, 8 Spring Valley Road, Levittown, Pa.

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A CHANCE TO WORK GREENLAND ?

K3DVB, Bill Beal, President of the Bucks County Amateur Radio Club will be in Thule, Greenland after the 21st of January. Perhaps we may have a ground wave or Aurora opening and be able to work him. He will be there about a year. He is going there for RCA as Engineering Control Coordinator on BMEWS.

SWAP AND SHOP

By Ray, W3ZRR

For Sale S-53 A Receiver, used one month, perfect condition. A \$90 receiver asking \$40.

Contact; K3IPM, Stanley Smith  
6344 N 8th Street,  
Phila., 26, Pa.  
Li. 9-4044

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For Sale Lionel train set D27 complete set from soup to nuts. List includes over 350 items. Perfect Condition. Any reasonable offer.

WRL 6 meter converter perfect condition.

International Xtal Converter 2 meters.

AR 59 Xtal mike Slim Jim

Stereo Hi-Fi portable with 2 speakers. New \$25.

Looking for a good 2 meter converter. VFO 2 & 6 or separate. WRL speech booster.

Contact; K3DXC, Mel Spiegel  
5939 N. 19th Street,  
Phila., 41, Pa.  
Ha. 4-6166

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For Sale SCR 522 and ARC 1 any reasonable offer.

Contact; W3DVB, Lou Tonik  
1204 Passmore Street,  
Phila., 11, Pa.

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For Sale Gonset 2 6 volts \$140.00

Contact; W3DJ, Ray Elemser  
Wa. 4-4018

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SMEL A RHAT JUST MADE THE DEADLINE

CONTEST COMMENTS

By Smel A. Rhat

Well another contest has come and gone and the days missed from work Monday reached staggering proportions. Industry around the area suffered considerably and no doubt caused the stock market to sag to some extent. As expected Frankie led the list - I understand that he was practically a hospital case by the time Monday rolled around. He is the only guy that ended up physically cut and bruised from the shindig.

So that as it may we are indebted to the D.O. for declaring a moratorium during the contest - otherwise dozens of those distasteful little post cards would now be in the hands of deserving operators. There was the usual number of good operators, with good equipment and then there were the boys, who at 1 P.M. Saturday afternoon, dug up their last year's 6 an 2 equipment,

hurriedly dusted it off and with great trepidation pushed the button - I haven't heard from some of them yet! I for one am glad that they got on, because it meant more points for the gang - but you can bet your hat that you won't hear most of them till contest time next year!

Some of the operating tactics observed around the bands deserve special comments (sulphurous). There was one of the gang, and sad to relate, he was a Pack Rat, - he would zero beat a guy's frequency calling CQ-get his contact and then QRZ the frequency, or even worse start calling CQ, never giving the other fellow a chance to fully exploit his CQ, and forcing the first user of the frequency to QSY. It should be a recognized rule that the first operator calling CQ on a given frequency should be allowed to work all the stations that he has lined up with his CQ. You have to assume that someone else is going to answer his CQ besides yourself.

Of course there are times when someone calls the second station using the frequency and it is difficult to avoid going back, but is not very hard to QSY a few KC especially on six and still get the contact.

The phone boys sure gave the CW lads a hard time at the low end of the bands. It is easy to see where the 100 KC CW segment at the low end would be very helpful. Let's face it fellow, the boys that use CW end up with the most multipliers, but they are awfully hard to work through phone QRM or with the CW packed in the first 10-20 KC or so. The phone boys sure are hungry for contacts - I heard one phone operator go back to a CW CQ on frequency and some hearty soul told him off!

All in all it was a good contest - to you that don't like contests - I say "Sour grapes" besides. I never hear you on very much anyway. - To you who are complaining about the QRM, the other guy's power, over modulation, and operating tactics and using these excuses for your low score - I say you have missed the point - examine your own equipment and operating methods. - To you who have compared your operating procedure, transmitter, receiver and antenna with that of some of the high scorers on the bands and have noted the improvements that you have to make for next year - I say that you have learned the hard way, but learned! Let us hope that you can get all the improvements finished by next contest time.

73,  
Smel

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The next meeting of the club will be held on Wednesday evening February 17 at The West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center at 8:30 P.M. See you there?