



CHEESE BITS

W3CCX
CLUB MEMORIAL CALL

ARRL
Affiliated
Club



Volume LIII

July 2012

Number 7

PREZ

SEZ:

After four years as your Vice President I have now managed to ascend to the Presidency. Thank you for bestowing the honor on me, I will do my best to

uphold the long tradition of service to the VHF/UHF/uW community and hopefully lead us into some new areas of interest.

It is with great pleasure that I reviewed the old issues of CheeseBits. There I find my business card ad starting in the July 1973 issue and running through the archives that exist through 1974. I was honored to be able to come to Packrat meetings back then in my role with Clegg Communications. You will see that it was a division of ISC in Lancaster. We were supporting our common initiative to protect the loss of some of our 220MHz band, which we all know failed. Further review finds some of my good friends being listed as visitors, the likes of WA3NUF and WA3JUF, and our trusty webmaster WA3AXV who was the Vice President at the time.

Many thanks to Ron for putting up such a far reaching treasure trove of Cheese Bits issues from the past.

These were great memories of an outstanding club that has withstood the test of time and will continue to forge new frontiers and opportunities for additional innovation. My

particular passion is automation and we'll talk more about that in the months ahead.

That failure to protect all of our spectrum at 220MHz reminds me of the role we all play in keeping the spectrum that we have in the microwave region. Keep the tradition of getting on higher bands; I am gathering components for 47GHz now and there are several others in the club that are already on that band.

The month of June was packed with memories. It was the month I was first licensed 50 years ago. On the anniversary of my first FCC ticket arriving at my home, the man (Ed Clegg) who would be my boss ten years later was the speaker at the Packrat meeting. Who knew?

Now that we've slipped into July the news that Ed White, WA3BZT has passed from our midst is heavy upon our hearts. Most recently Ed has served to assist Lenny with Cheese Bits and from 2009 to 2011 served on the Board of Directors. We will all miss Ed's contributions and stories at conferences. He had attended many near and far.

So lets finish the summer in great Packrat style by making the White Elephant Auction, Packrat Picnic and the ARRL August UHF Contest all a success. I particularly want to have every packrat in my log during my favorite contest in August. My dream is to have the UHF Contest become another highlight of our community

Pack Rats **CHEESE BITS** is a monthly publication of the **Mt. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.** -Southampton, PA.

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PACKRAT BEACONS - W3CCX/B

FM29jw Philadelphia, PA
50.080 144.284 222.064 432.286 903.072 1296.245 MHz
2304.043 3456.207 5763.196 10,368.062 MHz (as of 1/08)

MONDAY NIGHT NETS

<u>TIME</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>
7:30 PM	50.145 MHz	K3EOD FM29ll WA3QPX FM29di
8:00 PM	144.150 MHz	N3ITT FN20kl
8:30 PM	222.125 MHz	KB1JEY FN20je
8:30 PM	224.58R MHz	W3GXB FN20jm
9:00 PM	432.110 MHz	WB2RVX FM29mt
9:30 PM	1296.100 MHz	K3TUF FN10we
10:00 PM	903.100 MHz	WA3SRU FN20le

Visit the Mt Airy VHF Radio Club at: www.packratvhf.com or www.w3ccx.com

effort to excel at the bands that most other amateurs don't have equipment to operate but aspire to achieve. Lets make this August UHF Contest a winner, don't miss it.



This fall is sure to be an exciting one with the Mid Atlantic States VHF Conference. Get your registration in sooner than later.

We are joining with the NEWS group this year and the line up looks really good. Also this fall we are going to have our new Section Manager visit and focus on Roving with a panel at our September and October general meetings.

Finally I want to thank the previous board members for their service, Doc, Rich and Michael. We'll have future opportunities for you; and a warm welcome to our new board members Mike WB2RVX, Len N3NGE, Paul WA3GFZ and George KA3WXV to his new post as Secretary.

It's going to be a great year.
Lets work on lots of bands.

Phil, K3TUF

Packrat Ed White, WA3BZT, SK

Edward Joseph White, age 65, of Bear, DE, passed away on Thursday, July 5, 2012, at the Delaware Hospice Center.

Born on April 16, 1947 in Nuneaton in the county of Warwickshire, England, Mr. White was the son of the late William White and Julia Cartain White. He proudly served in the US Air Force as a young man and would continue in the service of his country as a member of the US Air Force Reserve for 41 years before his retirement from military duty.

In civilian life, Mr. White was an incredibly gifted engineer. He was instrumental in developing electronic guidance systems for NASA in the 1960s and 70s. He was last employed as a satellite engineer.

He was a licensed amateur radio operator (WA3BZT) and was part of Navy MARS, a national emergency communication system. As an amateur radio operator, he included the use of "Earth-Moon-Earth" technology--essentially bouncing signals off the moon.

Mr. White was a member of American Legion Post # 25 in Middletown.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Joan Taber White; his daughter, Angelique M. White and her husband, Jason Rogers, of Douglasville, PA; and his two grandsons, Justin David Rogers and Dalton Eric Rogers.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Mr. White may be made to the Delaware Hospice Center, 100 Patriots Way, Milford, DE 19963.



I wanted to let you know, if you haven't heard already, that Ed WA3BZT passed away Thursday morning (7/5/12) at 5:56AM. Ed was diagnosed with advanced stage mesothelioma approximately 7-8 weeks ago and it was very aggressive, so much so that his prognosis, had he elected treatment, was not optimistic.

Ed greatly enjoyed his time as a Pack Rat and the many VHF/UHF/Microwave, EME, and Digital conferences he attended. More so, he enjoyed talking to all of you and hearing your stories - both technical and personal. To me Ed was the consummate amateur - full of knowledge and most personable - he got along with everyone.

73, Doug, KA3KHZ, Wilmington, DE FM29ft

WOW. I saw Ed at Charlotte SVHFS only a short time ago and there was not one sign of a problem. His passing is just horrible news.
—Bob N4HY

Significant loss of a active operator in many aspects of the hobby.

—Gary WA2OMY

Very very sad news to hear of Ed's passing

—Paul W2PED

Very sorry to hear of Ed's passing. This was so sudden. I always enjoyed seeing Ed at club meetings and other activities. I could listen to his stories for hours.

Ed was an incredible man, he will be sorely missed.

Our thoughts and prayers to Ed's family.

—Al N3ITT

... WA3BZT, SK

Hello all. This is Ted's cousin in Arizona, Paul Evans. Ted was my giant of a cool cousin, with a basement full of old WWII radio gear in my grandfather's basement. Ted was 10 years older than me, and I thought he was the coolest guy in the world when I was little.

He took me out one night on Field Day, in about 1970; it was the first time I stayed up all night. No parents, no rules, drink as many soda's as you want....

40 years later, and I can still hear him in the back of WA3IUD's van, calling all night: "CQ CQ CQ. This is Whiskey Alpha Three - Baker Zebra Tango, calling CQ and listening, Over."

I still have the ARRL handbook (from the 1950's) that he gave me. ... but I never got around to getting my ham license. but I wanted to.... to be like Teddy.

My condolences to all his close friends. — Dr. Paul Evans

Ed and I met in 1994 at Delaware Technical & Community College. We were both seeking a piece of paper which said we could do what we had been doing for years.

When I arrived home one Sunday or Monday morning around 1AM, water was running out the front door. I shut off the source of the leak and surveyed the damage. 2,000sq ft with one to two or three inches of wall to wall water covered the floor inside my home.

I started with a wet/dry vacuum, and then I called Ed and told him I needed help and a wet/dry vacuum. I didn't explain, I just asked for help. Within an hour, Ed and Doug showed up with wet/dry vacs. With three vacuums running, it was after sunrise before we had removed all the free water from the floors and carpets.

Ed and I spent many an hour in person or by telephone vehemently arguing the finer points of nothing. I enjoyed his company, and I always thought he felt likewise.

Ed White was and always will be the definition of a friend. His absence leaves an unfillable void.

Don E Nolan, West Texas

Ed and I go back to 9th grade. I started in his school and we both ended up in the same homeroom and discovered that we were both (what today we would call) geeks. He was only the next block over from the school, so we had a good place to hang out in his basement. Years later I ran into him again at Widener College in a class organized by the ARRL.

Finally we got together on the computer and found out that after high school we followed similar paths. He became a flight engineer in the Air Force on cargo planes and I earned my wings as a gunner on AC-130s. We had a long telephone call one night and both went more deeply into that phase of our lives than we would with a civilian.

I've been telling my wife that I need to ride down to visit since I'm less than 200 miles away, but I guess my visit will be for the wrong reason. For almost 50 years we've been on and off friends, but always Brothers.

—Rich Silva

I knew Ted from Chester High School, 1963 to 1966. Back then he was a ham buddy.

We used to go the Philly Navy Yard and pick up those old military radios which could be bought for a penny a pound. If I remember correctly we would pack all those goodies into a Rambler station wagon.

We would literally bring it back by the TON. Best part was sneaking all that stuff into the basement of the house on 7th and Highland Ave. Basements back then were more like dungeons of a mad scientist. With Ted being taller than me, he would on occasion bump his head.

I remember the warm glow of vacuum tubes would help light up the basement and bring a smile on Ed's face when the stuff actually worked, and of course he could never stop talking about it.

73's Ted de Paul K3SF

Hi all,

I'm Ted,s cousin in England. Ted,s dad Harry & my mum Pearl, were brother & sister. There were 2 others, Fred & Ken. My 1st encounter with Ted was back in the late 50,s. He came over to England with his Granddad, Ted Cartain, The Big Yank, we use to call him. Every time the Yank came over, it would get the families all together. When cousin Ted came over with him, he stopped to visit with my Granddad & Grandma. He was a bit of a tearaway, climbing out the windows instead of using the doors, riding a bike where he shouldn't have been. Even got stopped by a policeman a couple of times riding through a walkway. Luckily he just kicked off. The Big Yank just shook his head in disbelief. Ha Ha.

The next time we met was when we came over to visit in 1980. Ted & his friend Tom picked us up from New York & took us back to Ted,s, where we stopped for the week. Every morning when we woke up, the kids would be sitting on the end of the bed watching the TV. In those days in England we didn't have all day TV, & we had limited channels.

Ted took us various places of interest, looked after us very well. Really enjoyable time, which i was forever grateful.

— Edward Fairburn

I was shocked and dismayed when I got word from Ed that he had terminal cancer with very little time left. A guy with such a lively personality (lively = "full of life and vital energy" ... look in the dictionary) just couldn't be so close to the end. But it was so. What made it worse was that he was someone who shared our enthusiasm for ham radio with such gusto and commitment.

He also was a great associate editor of Cheese Bits, who helped a lot in getting articles from folks for our club newsletter.

Farewell, Ed. I will remember you and I will miss you. Your friend, Lenny W2BVH

Another example of “The Pack Rat Way”

Four days before the June contest Al, K3EOD calls to tell me his 6 meter tower rotor is bad. I had just told him the day before I would not be operating with him this year as it was only a week and a half after my knee surgery. He mentioned that Bruce, WA3WUL was bringing a 6 meter loop antenna to hang on the tower so they could make some contacts. I told Al that would be great as the band has



been open and they will work lots of contacts without having to turn the beam. Meanwhile Ray, N3RG gets a crew together and along with Bruce they lower the tower and change out the rotor.

The next day I'm feeling guilty about not operating the contest, in fact it was driving me crazy (**actually just a short putt**). So I thought about what I told Al remembering that I had a 6 meter end fed dipole and feedline plus an Icom 746. I went outside looking for a place to install it finding my daughter's pool skimming net on a pole. I could not climb with my knee, so I managed to put one end of the dipole on the

pole and strapped it to the above ground pool deck. Wow, 15 feet high!! Our bed backed up to the bedroom window so I tied a piece of rope to the bedpost and fed it out the window to support the other end of the dipole. Then I remembered that I had a 2 meter loop in the trunk of Barb's car. So I took down the pole and installed it on top. Wow, now I had 2 bands at 15 feet! But wait, I only had the 6 meter feedline. Barb took pity on me and drove me to Radio Shack for some of their **“quality”** RG-58.

I hooked everything up and checked with N3RG Friday night on the air...Just readable on 6 meters and S8 on 2 meters. Not very good, but a station on the air is better than none. Well, I ended up working 62 stations including CCX and other Pack Rats in 32 grids, thanks to 6 meter propagation for a total of 1,984 points!



The pictures show my “Nightstand Shack” complete with homebrew pushbutton key and my “Antenna Farm”.

73, Bob W2SJ

Contest Note from N3ITT THANKS TO ALL!!

Sorry I've taken awhile getting this out but things have been a little hectic.

Anyway, I'd just like to express my **sincere thanks and great appreciation** to all those who helped out or supported the Club's multi-op effort on Camelback this year. Make no mistake, **this is a huge undertaking, and is made possible only because of the efforts of many packrats.**

Overall I thought it was a great contest this year. The WX was great, there was enough help thru all phases of the event, there was some great openings on 6 and late Sunday on 2!

We did some things this year to make things better and they seemed to have worked. Ideas are already being bounced around to make next year's effort go even smoother!

Now with the contest behind us, **don't forget the Summer meetings.** You don't want to miss the White Elephant sale at Gary's (WA2OMY). This is a great opportunity to unload or acquire some priceless treasures. And you DEFINITELY don't want to miss the PACKRAT PICNIC right here at my QTH (N3ITT).

Come prepared to enjoy a great day with your fellow club members and friends and families. Tons of great food and drink, swimming, horseshoes and other activities!

So mark ur calendar for Aug. 11 (12th as rain date) and RSVP.
HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE AT THE PICNIC!

73 ,AI N3ITT

Packrat White Elephant Sale Later This Week

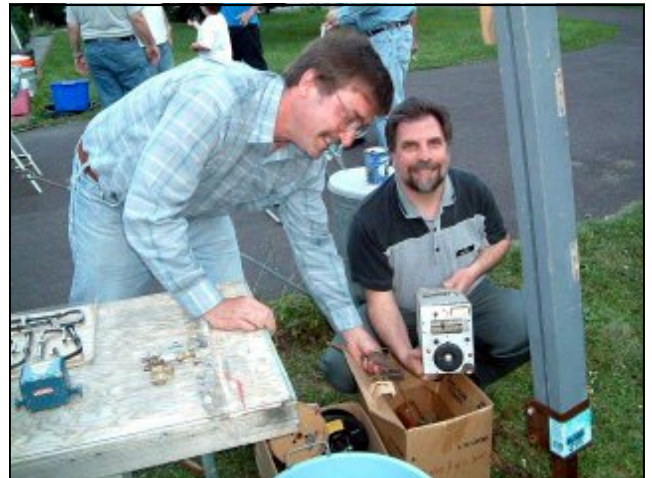
The annual White Elephant Sale will be held at "Garys Gulch" (39 W. Mt. Kirk Ave. Norristown, PA 19043.).

Date- This Thursday, July- 19th.

A brief business meeting will start at 7:30, the auction normally starts around 7:45. Refreshments provided.

This pic is from 2003---treasures abound at the White Elephant Auction: AA3GN and WA3GFZ discover goodies.

Tnx to K1DS for the jpg.



Contest Note from W3GAD

I was rather late in getting the June PrezSez to the editor and in hurrying to get the material ready mentioned only one significant effort for the rovers. In reviewing the information now, I see I had missed the sterling efforts of the NN3Q Rover and surely do not want to leave out anyone in the praise department. This year the bands were crazy and the rovers with NN3Q's leading score. Russ and Al's efforts are noteworthy and added greatly to the W3CCX score.

Since that weekend I have been in a whirlwind of activity until my body said enough and I had to take a day off to recoup.

— Doc Whitticar

“Team VHF” at Warminster FD

Just a note to brag about 4 fellow Packrats, **Joe-WA3SRU, Michael-KB1JEY, George-KA3WXV & Tom-KA3FQS**, officially known as "Team VHF". We worked the 6 and 2 meter stations with the Warminster Amateur Radio Club from The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. The highlight was that I brought my 32 ft 5th wheel camper as our operations center. All the comforts of home with hot & cold running water & air conditioning. We had a lot of visitors stop by. I think it was just to sweat on our old air, hi hi. See the attached pictures:

73's Joe - WA3SRU



One of the highlights for me and the rest of "Team VHF" at the K3DN 2012 Field Day site was a visit from **Bill Edgar N3LLR**, the Atlantic Division Director. In tow were some family members. Bill brought his HT and my ICOM IC-746 has a handy FM button so the QSO was made and recorded on the attached QSL card. I was personally delighted to see Bill because I missed the Timonium Hamfest this year, which is where Bill and I usually catch up. Maybe Bill can make the Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference in October so we can continue the conversation.

73, Michael KB1JEY

N3LLR

Mobile
Bill Edgar
 22 Jackson Ave
 Bradford, PA 16701
 McKean County
 USA
 Grid: FN01
 n3llr@arrl.org

CONFIRMING QSO WITH		DAY	MONTH	YEAR
K3DN		23	Jun	12
UTC	FREQ	2/MODE	RST	
2100	146.55		59	

10-X # 73682
 PSE QSL
 TNX

Atlantic Division Director

Strays...

I am compiling info for the QST write-up of the June contest and seeking info that would be of interest to readers---send me some of your tid-bits---unique propagation, what worked and what didn't, and anything else that makes for a fun read.

TNX, Rick, K1DS

JUNE 2012 ROVER ACTIVITIES, K3IUUV

K3IUUV went roving with minimal equipment and antennas. Equipment was arranged on the floor of the trunk area of the SUV. Operational mode: open hatch !

Antennas used were mag mount verticals for 2M, 220 and 432 and a vertical whip for 6. A Halo was also mounted to the roof rack, and used for 2M SSB. FM walkie-talkies were available for 2, 220 and 432.

Uwave bands used were 2304, 5760 and 10GHz, using borrowed transverters and printed circuit log periodic antennas (In the rush of preparation, I left the 5-band Uwave transverter home!).

Initial activity started at the W3CCX mountain site in FN21. A few of the 6-meter skip contacts were made from this location (Michigan and Canada), using 1/2-watt power (and of course the club station on all my bands).

I relocated to FN11, FN10 and FN20 to establish the Rover category. Contacts from these locations were scanty, even though the locations were all at good elevation.

Difficulties are attributed to the minimal antennas and low power. Numerous stations were heard, but only a few were worked. A big disappointment.

Score achieved was 1197, submitted to ARRL and accepted by the Robot. Next year, I hope to have better antennas and (maybe) higher power!

73, Bert, K3IUUV

PS: I'll bring the 5-band transverter to the Oct 18th meeting.

Valley Forge Revolutionary Run Supported by Packrats

Michael, KB1JEY, and Joe WA3SRU and a bunch of other hams provided communications support for the Valley Forge Revolutionary run in April. As a benefit, they finally got to meet with Channel 6 Meteorologist, Cecily Tynan. This was WA3SRU's 3rd run. Michael has been trying for 7 years and finally made it.



Very attractive. And Cecily looks good too! :-)



LIKEWISE

Advice For Those Considering Ham Operation on Mt. Wachusett

Here is an edited version of correspondence between K1DS and W1FKF on what it takes to get ham gear onto Mt Wachusett and operate from there. A good resource if you're considering contest or micro-wave ops.

From K1DS

GOOD NEWS: I called both the Wachusett office and the Boston DCR office to get the detail about potential rover operation again on Mt. Wachusett. The [road to the top is open again](#) as of May 26 as noted in the website.

BAD NEWS: You need a special use permit to operate ham radio from the mountain because there are many other communication services maintained on the top. The special use permit is a web-based application form from the [Mass.gov/dcr](#) site. It's a 2 page form, and bears no relationship to ham rover or mountaintop radio communication (like 10-24G portable). It has a \$35 application fee. There is currently a 45 day processing time as they have a huge backlog.

SO WHAT? As a result, I will not try to go up there for the June VHF weekend. I had operated from Wachusett several times when I lived in RI and I traveled there from PA a few years ago also. I would be interested to see if anyone else in NE goes up there and can tell me their experience-I know that W1FKF and W1GHZ (now in VT) as well as the W2SZ rovers have used this spot in the past also.



PLEASE-if anyone is going up there, let me know what the experience is, and what your radio set-up is like? I'll bet that a small set-up with a few halos or verticals on the roof or bumper would not be subject to any problem, but that a rover van like mine with yagis and dishes for 6m thru 24G would not get past the gate without the requisite permit.

TNX, Rick, K1DS/R

From W1FKF

June 1, 2012 I went over to Mt Wachusett to see if I could talk to some one regarding what K1DS had found out. [It is not as bad as what he indicated](#). I explained to the supervisor more about what we do in the contest and that over the years we have not had any complaints. If you were to stay at the top for an extended time like over night they would require a special permit like Ed K1TR has done in the past. As long as you give them some notification of what you are doing she



said they have a Recreational Permit that they can give at the base of the mountain. (I think she said no charge...) Like everything else no guarantee they will give you one!!

The kicker is that **you can no longer drive to the top** like we have done in the past!! The parking lot is all treed in with space for approximately 50 cars, and it would not be a good spot to make microwave contact. It is about a 300 ft walk to the top.

They have built a nice observation deck on the summit,. It is about 50 ft square and in the middle of it is a new fire tower... The old one will come down at some point. Landscaping is in progress

I am not sure whether they will let us take our dishes up on the deck or not... My guess is no, as there is not room between the rail and the benches for tripods and people to walk by...

I know there definitely will be a problem for the second weekend of the 10 GHz contest as it is hawk migration season and the top is covered with bird watchers...

The supervisor has only been there 3 years and she has not had a great deal off exposure to amateurs since the road was closed for 2 years.



I would suggest anyone going there to play radio should stop at the bottom and tell them what you are up to.

She said they already told one guy to leave because he had no documentation. I told her she may get other calls from amateurs regarding access...

Supervisor info:
denise.morrissey@state.ma.gov
Denise 978 464 2987
73, don w1fkf



WA3GFZ First 2M EME QSOs

A big hurrah for club member WA3GFZ!!! I just listened to Paul making what I took to be his first two EME QSOs on 2 meters.

The moon has been busy with 2m signals today (7/15/12) -- especially with stations from all continents calling and working VP9I for a new DXCC and grid locator. The Bermuda station was manned by DL9MS, DF7KF, and DM1AC.

They had a single dual-polarization Yagi, 150 Watts, and a good LNA, and they were working the world.

I was happy to put K1JT in their log for my 2m DXCC #123 and 2m VUCC #608.

Come on in, and join the fun!

-- 73, Joe, K1JT

Mid-Atlantic / N.E. VHF Conference

Great presentations, hospitality, buy and sell, buffet banquet and door prizes

*****SIGN up now at early bird rates*****

Friday Eve, Oct 12, Saturday October 13, 2012 at the Marriott Courtyard, Bensalem, PA

Papers and presentations wanted for the Joint Mid-Atlantic & NE VHF Conference

WE WANT YOUR CONTRIBUTION

Please forward electronic formatted material to info@packratvhf.com

Information and Registration site now on-line at www.packratvhf.com

Strays...

Congrats to Marc N2UO on the cover of the August 2012 QST: Marc's 20' EME dish is featured in a beautiful sunrise photo. —Rick K1DS

Thanks, Rick. On Thursday I received a letter from the ARRL anticipating that the photo would be used for the cover. The reason is that I submitted the image to the ARRL annual photo contest and it won first prize. I guess that the announcement will appear on the next issue of QST. —73, Marc N2UO

More Strays...

Hi Rick,

I thought some of the club would be interested that there is another VHF RATS club. See <http://vushf.rats.fi/>.

73, AI - K2UYH

And here's the Finland RADIO AMATEUR TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY's mascot:

Nothing new under the sun?? —W2BVH



A Message from W1RT/R

I recently heard that I was selected for the high honor of the Rover Recognition Award for 2012!

This award really means a lot to me given the history of the Jitney.

We often will ask "What Would Bill Do?" when faced with one more contact before we leave a site we're already 30 minutes late in leaving. It also melds nicely with my recent considerations of changing the goals for W1RT/R from contest-winning to rare-grid-exploration (though Bill **seemed to be able to combine the two**, I prefer a less frantic pace).

I'd **like to thank everyone** for their support, and look forward to working a bunch of you from FM15 in September!

de w1rt/john

....Let me just second that! 73 de xtof ON4IY W1RT/R W3IY/R 2nd op.

The Wayback Machine

Gleaned from the pages of
Cheese Bits, July, 1962

(Vol. V Nr. 4)

(Authors comments in *italics*)

- This issue, 10 double-sided legal size pages, mailed for a 4½ cent stamp.
- In the Prez Sez column by W2AXU, Jack, he congratulated the club for their efforts and achievements in the past year, and for their support of him. Special thanks extended to Helen and her staff for the Cheese Bits quality. *(With elections in process, watch for a surprise next month).*
- A full page of “gossip” items was included, listing various personal happenings with members and their families. This was Helen’s normal routine, to help maintain the “family” and camaraderie relationship amongst the club members. *(Remember, there was no Packrat reflector available to put out timely notices).*
- June contest notes. Held in Doylestown QTH of member W3CKP, Warren Parker (Near the Shrine). Highlights included K3IPM, Stan, running the 6-meter station and racking up 32 sections and 542 contacts (*50-years ago!*). The club operated 6 through 1296 (30 cm: *2 contacts, had a 6’ dish in place*).
- Nice collection of pictures taken at the

May meeting. W1HDQ, Ed Tilton (*World above Editor for QST*) shown presenting the gavel for First Place in the Jan Sweepstakes. Also, trophies for First place in the club to W2EIF, Joe, and E. PA section winner, W3KKN, Ernie. Shots of the members rag-chewing were included.

- Humor. K3JJZ, El, in his inimitable manner, reports on a “lost” Packrat. K3BPK, Dave had not returned from a late afternoon antenna party, by 11:30pm. A call to El from Dave’s mother started the hunt. El determined that Dave had headed to the QTH of W3CL at 8:45, but never arrived. Read all the details in this issue on the W3CCX website. But note that Dave was eventually found with his car broken down on Rt. 73. Dave had had the battery, generator and voltage regulator replaced the day before *(Looks like that wasn’t the real problem!)*.
- New Products. W3NSI, Lyn describes a 5”, 8-lb transistorized TV from Sony. Perfect for a TVI monitor, if installed in your shack. To be sold in the US starting in Nov. He also describes a “group” of eight universal replacement transistors, released by GE. Designated GE-1 through GE-8 (*sounds logical*), they are intended to replace “over 700 known domestic and foreign types”. *(Production control in early transistor types allowed for a wide range of characteristics. Measurements on the finished product*

were frequently used to separate out ranges, and identify them by a new part number! There was basically no "scrap").

- Technical. TVI was a big problem in this era. Schematics and detailed information was provided, showing how to build and install filter circuits to reduce or eliminate interference in various types of audio equipment and TV sets.
- Six-meters, Jules, K3MSV reports activity light, with a few brief openings into Fla. and Georgia. Stations from Albany and Rhode Island being heard nightly.
- Two-meters, Dave, W3LHF again reports lots of Long Island activity, W8AEC in Martinsburg, WVA and K1MIX in CT are heard nightly

thirty, de K3IUUV



Walt Maxwell W2DU, SK

Ted, W3SYN, recently emailed me, letting me know that Walt Maxwell, W2DU became an SK.

Walt retired to Florida after leaving a long career at RCA. His last assignment was at the Astro-Electronics plant. He was a well known technical advisor and author for QST. His areas of expertise were antennas, transmission lines, and related RF information. I had the pleasure of knowing Walt during my tenure at the Astro plant.

His obituary is seen at the following site:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/news-journalonline/>

You can read tributes and accolades to Walt at the following link. It also gives you links to a number of his articles and other information.

<http://amfone.net/Amforum/index.php?topic=31796.0>

Walt will be missed by the Ham fraternity.

Bert, K3IUUV

A little Packrat history, courtesy of K3IUUV

Just got back to "scanning" old Cheese Bits. I'm up to 1974. While doing the April 1974 issue, I ran across the announcement of the death of our good friend and club member Mario, K3UJD. For the youngsters in the club, you may be familiar with his call only by virtue of the meeting raffle, named in his honor, or old photos and slides of him in his flamboyant pink shorts at the June QSO party.

Dave Zimmerman (SK), W3ZD, wrote a eulogy for Mario, published in the April 1974 issue. If you'd like to read it, Ron will shortly be posting my scanned copy on the W3CCX website (read pg 7).

Mario was 52 when he died of heart problems, March 4, 1974.

—Bert, K3IUUV.

Events

For inclusion, please direct event notices to the editor.

Packrat White Elephant Sale - Auction Sale

July 19th, 2012. QTH of Gary WA2OMY. Watch Packrat reflector for details.

CQWW VHF Contest - Contest July 21, 2012 1800Z to July 22, 2012 2100Z. See <http://www.cqww-vhf.com/> for details.

ARRL August UHF Contest - August 4-5, 2012. Details to follow.

Packrat Annual Picnic BBQ, etc. - August 11, 2012. QTH of AI N3ITT. Watch the Packrat reflector for details.

15th International EME Conference Meeting

August 17 - 18, 2012, Churchill College, Cambridge UK. See <http://eme2012.com/> for details.

10 GHz and Up (round 1) Contest - August 18-19, 2012. Details to follow

September VHF QSO Party - Contest
September 8-10, 2012. Details to follow.

10 GHz and Up (round 2) Contest -
September 15-16, 2012. Details to follow

Joint Mid-Atlantic & Eastern VHF Conference Conference - October 12-14, 2012. Marriott Courtyard in Bensalem PA. Details to follow.

Microwave Update (MUD) 2012 Conference -
October 18- 21, 2012. Hosted by: The 50MHz and Up Group of Northern California. Details to follow.

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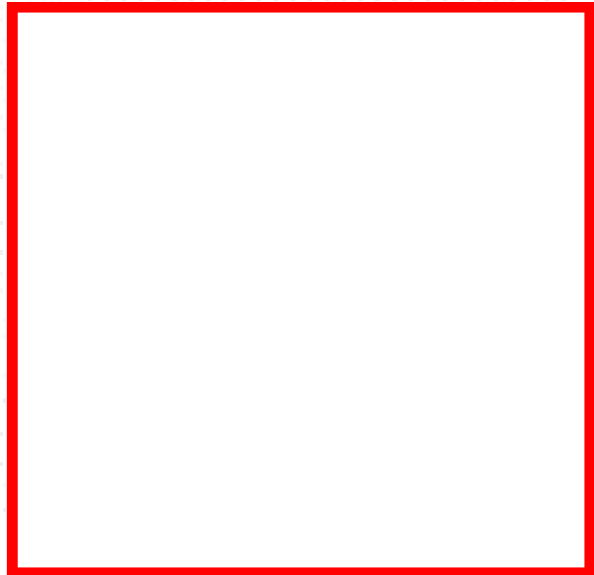
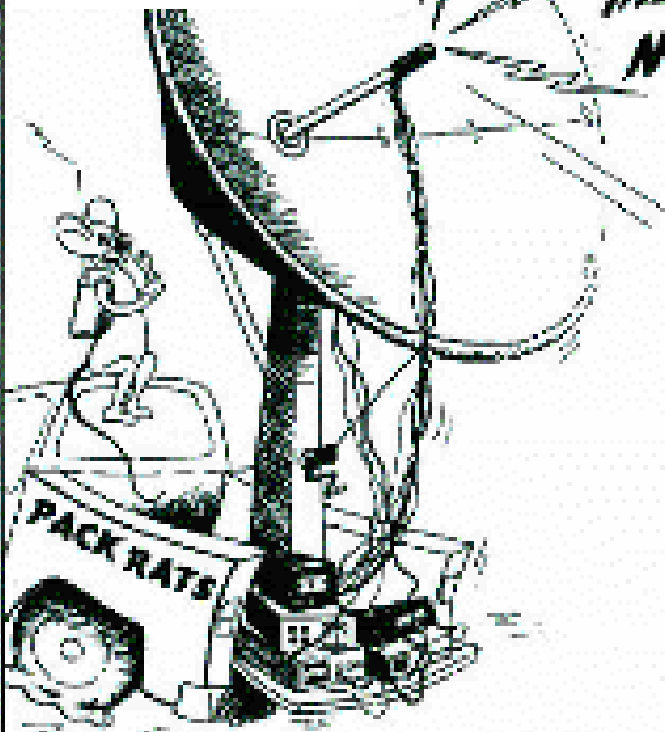
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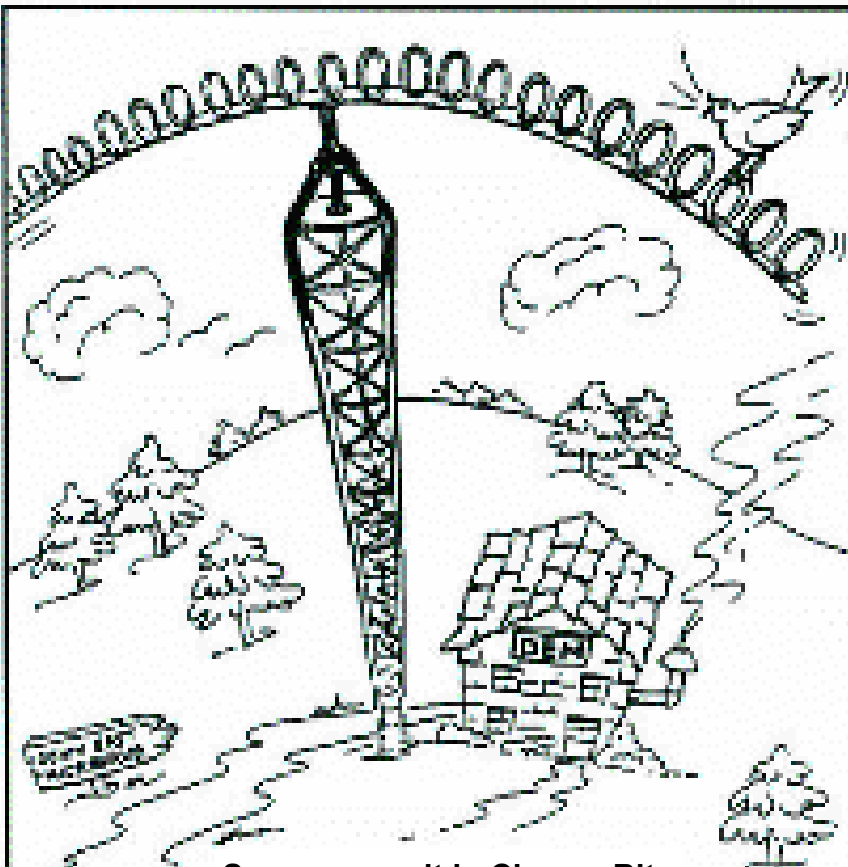
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