

PACK RATS



PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

CHEESE BITS



MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA (ARNS)
(50.2, 145.2, 221.4, 432.03 & 1296.3 Mhz) Repeater: 222.98/224.58

AFFILIATED CLUB: AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

MEETINGS: THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 8:00 P.M.

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SOUTHAMPTON, PENNSYLVANIA

VOLUME XVI

NOVEMBER, 1974

NUMBER 11

THE PREZ SEZ

The Pack Rat Hamarama was the talk of the Delaware Valley this year. With over 1,000 registered guests and row after row of tail-gaters, this is growing into one of the really big Ham events of the year. Hamarama has more than tripled in size in just three short years since its humble beginning in Jamison, Pa. in 1972. Our thanks to Lee Cohen, K3MXM, for a fine job of planning and organizing Hamarama 1974. Thanks to all the club members who gave up most of a day off to make things happen. And last, but certainly not least, thanks to the wives and friends of the Pack Rats who came out and did an outstanding job of registration and ticket sales. This was a fantastic club effort and shows once again what the Pack Rats can do when we all get together. If you weren't a part of this year's Hamarama, how about setting aside the first Sunday in October, 1975 and lend a hand next year.

Winter is fast approaching and everyone knows that that means. Right! The January Contest. It won't be long and your Chairman, K3ACR, is busily preparing for this year's Contest. Please give him your full cooperation as we go for No. 15!

OTO JZF PGPC HZYOPC HSD SLO EZ NWPLY VTYR VZVYV'D WTEEPC MZI?

73's, Ron, WA3AXV

* * *

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 505 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT OCTOBER 17, 1974 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT: The 1975 ARRL International DX competition, to be held the first and third weekends of February and March 1975, will feature several rules modifications recommended by the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee. Single operators will be permitted entry in any of three categories, all band, or high band 20-15-10 meters, or low band 160-80-40 meters. On a trial basis, a one weekend DXpedition category will be established. New certificates will be awarded DX participants making 1000 or more QSOs. Full details will appear in the December issue of QST. Please help spread the word. AR

* * *

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 504 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT OCTOBER 10, 1974 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT: With the return to Standard Time on October 27, W1AW will inaugurate a new operating schedule featuring increased code practice and bulletins. Afternoon code transmissions at 2100 GMT Monday through Friday will include practice at 10, 13 and 15 wpm. This will be followed at 2130 GMT by an official bulletin sent at 18 spm. A teletype bulletin will take place daily at 2230 GMT. Amateurs are reminded that the special October Sunday evening local qualifying Run will now be held at 0230 GMT October 28. The scheduled November 9 Frequency Measuring Tests will take place at 0230 and 0530 GMT. Evening code practice occurs at the same local clock time. The complete new W1AW schedule will appear in the December issue of QST. AR

PACK RATS' CHEESE BITS IS A PUBLICATION OF THE MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC. PHILADELPHIA, PA. AND IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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WE OPERATE ON AN EXCHANGE BASIS WITH OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND ANYTHING THAT IS PRINTED IN CHEESE BITS MAY BE REPRINTED, UNLESS SO STATED, AS LONG AS THE PROPER CREDIT IS GIVEN.

SWAP SHOP ITEMS - NO CHARGE

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

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215 DA 4-7524

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#5 SUNNYBROOK COURT
STRATFORD, N.J. 08084
609 - 783-9478

CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3SAO, FRANCIS BRICK

TYPIST:

W3TEM, MARSHA STEIN

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PRESIDENT: WA3AXV, RON WHITSEL
VICE. PRES.: W3HMU, TONY SOUSA
CORRES. SEC. K3KTY, JOHN TATE
REC. SEC.: WA3DJF, CARL MATTIACE
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K3ACR, RICH PATTISON
WA3JUF, DAVE MASCARO
K3KMN, GEORGE GAKOUMIS
W3YXF, JOE RUSHTON

DIRECTORS' MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS.

MONDAY NIGHT NETS:

		<u>NET CONTROL</u>
145.2	- 7:30 P.M.	W2EIF
50.2	- 8:30 P.M.	W3CL/K3ACR
221.4	- 9:00 P.M.	K3GAS
432.03	- 9:30 P.M.	K3IUU
1296.3	- 10:00 P.M.	W3HMU


FRIDAY NIGHT ATV NET: NET CONTROL

439.250 - 7:00 P.M. K3ZKO/WA3AXV

PACK-RAT REPEATER - WR3ACD

222.98/224.58

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

NOVEMBER

- 2 Warminster ARC Auction - Warminster Township Bldg., Henry and Gibson Aves. Warminster, Pa. 7:30 p.m. Material being moved in late Saturday afternoon.
- 2-3 ARRL Sweepstakes - CW Contest.
- 9 QCWA, Delaware Valley Chapter, Buck Hotel. RADM Ray Schneider, W3MJE, speaker.
- 12 Contest Coordinators Meeting - 8:00 p.m. QTH K3GAS, Alternates invited also.
- 13 Board of Directors Meeting, QTH W3CJU. Directors and interested parties invited to attend.
- 21 General Club Meeting, Southampton Free Library, Southampton, Pa. 8:00 p.m. Subject and speaker to be announced on the nets. Doc's Silent Auction, the MARIO Auction. Refreshments will be served.

DECEMBER

- 11 Board of Directors Meeting, QTH WA3NGK. Harry Brown.
- 19 General Club Meeting, CLOSED TO ALL BUT MEMBERS. Preparations for the January Contest. This year the dates are January 4th and January 5th so make all preparation early and now. Take care of that outside antenna work while the weather is still nice.

* * *

LIGHTNING FLASHES BY K3MXM

For you DX and Country Hunters. Six operators from the South Jersey Radio Association are planning a four day KC4 - Navassa operation from the 26th through the 29th of November. The planning at this point calls for a two station effort around the clock. The group will work cw and SSB ten through 80 meters. Several of the group are engineers with RCA in N.J.

ELECTRONIC EXCHANGE is moving his store from North Wales to Souderton, Pa.

Having trouble learning the code for 13 WPM - here is a little fact from the big book of records - On July 2nd, 1939, Ted R. McElroy copied code at the rate of 75.2 words a minute (over 17 symbols per second)

MOBILERS BEWARE - Minnestoa has joined Florida and Virginia in forbidding the wearing of headphones while driving. Shucks, no more stereo while on the Schuylkill Expressway parking lot!

WELLERS LAW "Nothing is impossible for the man who doesn't have to do it himself."

FINAGLES LAW "Once a job is fouled up - anything done to improve only makes it worse."

McGURK'S LAW "Any improbably event which would create maximum confusion if it did occur will occur"

de WCARS Sentinel

* * *

WCAU AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Dear O.M.

As a public service we are looking for Amateurs who will donate a few hours of their time a few times a year to instruct teenagers.

In formulation is a plan to instruct about 10 CAP teenage cadets on how to obtain a ham license. It is planned to use WCAU-TV Studio 1 on a Saturday morning basis.

If we can get enough hams to participate, each man would be needed only two times a year.

Please let me know your feelings concerning this opportunity to help some boys.

73, Ed Kushner, W3HKZ

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS: WA2HVD/9 - Richard E. Bokern, Sr.
6409 Wakopa Ct. Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46805 219-485-2116
WB2SZK - Randy Bynum
127 Arbor Meadow Drive, Sicklerville, N.J. 08081

* * *
TID BITS

George, W2REB of Chews Landing fame drew a large crowd at the October meeting of the Club. His travels and adventures in Iran and Jordan while working there for 2 years made for a most interesting travelog. The boys say they want a return engagement real soon.

Congrats to Don, WA3TTV/WA3HVL on obtaining his tech. license once again.

It was nice to see Jim, K3OBY and his next door neighbor Chas, K3HSS at our October meeting.

A presentation of the ARRL special library book collection was made on Thursday evening October 17, 1974, to the Southampton Free Library. Our prez Ron, WA3AXV and ye Editor, Harry, W3CL turned over the books to Judith Foster, Head Librarian. Ms. Foster sent a note as follows: "We have added the books you donated to our collection with acknowledgement indicated therein. We thank you for your generous donation."

* * *
PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - SUBMITTED OCTOBER 9, 1974 BY
BERT SOLTOFF, K3IUU

Article IV Officers:

Change from: The officers. . .
to : The elected officers. . .

Add: Honorary officers shall carry all privileges as members of the Board of Directors, except that of voting.

Article V Elections:

Add: (7) Honorary officer such as the Historian shall be appointed by the President and ratified by the Board of Directors. These honorary positions shall be earned by merit of outstanding and faithful service to the club. They shall serve continuously unless removed by a unanimous vote of the Board, or by resignation.

Article VII Duties:

Change (6) to (7)

Add (6) The Historian shall keep the historical files, records, and memorabilia of the club in a safe manner. He shall prepare displays and historical notes as requested by the Board of Directors.

* * *

THIS IS YOUR LIFE (THE PACK RATS)

Part #4 "Plans For Insurance and Incorporation"

At the March meeting President W3FSC announced plans for getting on 6 meters as a club project.

W3FSC appointed a committee consisting of W3OZP and W3UMI to investigate the cost of securing both Insurance and Incorporation protection for the members. He also appointed W3HYO and W3FOZ to serve on the Picnic Committee.

New Member: W3EMG Howard Gibson

Applicant: W3AYG John Harris

Treasurer's Report: Amount on hand as of Feb. 28, 1957 \$67.60.

At the April meeting W3FSC read a letter from the insurance agent giving the cost of the policy. W3TYX requested the agent give complete details of the policy at the next meeting.

It was announced that a PACK RAT NET will start at 8:00 P.M. each Monday nite on the club frequency 144.2 MC. W3SAO will be net control. W3ZEY will be alternate control.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

THIS IS YOUR LIFE (THE PACK RATS)

CONTINUED

Nominations of officers and directors will be made from the floor at the May 15th meeting. Our first anniversary. We will have an auction sale and refreshments.

New Member: W3AYG, John Harris. Applicant W3OIR, John Tompkins.

VISITORS: W3OIR, W3OY, SWL, Dick, W3IBN, KN2UXB, W2ESG, W3EMD, W3FOX presented colored slides of stock sports cars in Florida. TREASURER'S REPORT: Amount on hand as of March 31, 1957 \$71.15.

May 15, 1957 (OUR FIRST BIRTHDAY) President W3FSC announced the Purchase of the Insurance Policy to protect the club and the members.

A motion was made by W3OZP to amend the By-laws to make the entrance fee \$2.00 instead of \$1.00. It was passed by unanimous vote.

Vice-President W3ZEY suggested that the president appoint a TVI Committee. W3KKN was appointed to be in charge of the Nomination of Officers.

President: W3DHH, W3OZP, W3ZEY

Vice Pres: W3TYX, W3FOZ, W3HWV

Secretary: W3SAO

Treasurer: W3CPT

Directors: W3CL (2 Year Term)

W3FSC(2 Year Term)

The members were requested to donate the sum of \$1.00 toward the cost of Incorporation. An auction sale was held and 10% of each sale was put toward the Fund for Incorporation. The total amount obtained was \$8.15.

VISITORS: K2LXI, W3VIR, W3FXB, K3NAL, W3STA/3

NEW MEMBER: W3DIR, John Tompkins

TREASURER'S REPORT: Amount on hand as of May 15, 1957 \$59.75.

A meeting was held at the WFIL Radio Transmitter Building at Joshua Road and Flourtown Pike, Whitmarsh, Pa.

Those in attendance: W3CL, W3CPT, W3SAO, W3FSC, W3ZEY, W3TYX, W3KKN. Mr. George Koehler, Station Manager of WFIL outlined a project concerning the Boy Scouts of America involving amateur radio. A special meeting was to be held with selected members of the club to discuss details of a training program. The classes will be held at the Radio Transmitter Building.

At the special meeting, W3CPT and W3CL drew up a 13 week course to be submitted to Mr. Koehler for his approval.

The following 3 men teams were formed to conduct the classes and each team has an instructor to teach the theory.

W3CPT INSTRUCTOR	W3AYG	INSTRUCTOR	W3EMG	INSTRUCTOR	W3UKI	INSTRUCTOR
W3CCX	W3SAO		W3HWV		W3AJF	
W3FOZ	W3HYO		W3ZEY		W3FSC	
					W3OGI	

ALTERNATES: W3CL, W3KKN, W3VGN, W3JAY, W3TYX

W3CPT was named CHIEF OF OPERATIONS.

(To be continued)

Frankie Brick, W3SAO, Club Historian.

* * *

REPEATER OPERATING PROCEDURES
(EXCERPTS FROM PARA)

A. Intrinsic with the repeater is its value when used in emergencies and for public service. A normal transmission should be as short as possible (60 seconds or less) expressing a single thought. Pause several seconds between transmissions to permit break-in stations to access the repeater. These two basic procedures will naturally allow for emergency or priority traffic to be recognized.

B. Base stations should be cognizant of the possibility of accessing more than one repeater at a time. Use of a repeater from a base station should be kept to a minimum. Direct operation on a simplex frequency should be conducted whenever possible. Two base stations should seldom have to use a repeater. Mobile and/or hand held units should also attempt to communicate directly whenever possible. By communicating directly on a simplex frequency the repeater is made available for stations not able to communicate directly, emergency conditions or for auto-patch calls.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11)

VHF REPORT
BY JO, W2EIF

The 15th and 16th of September produced a fair aurora opening which also extended to 220 and 432 according to some reports received here. The VHF activity since then has not shown any increase and has been consistent in that there have been no tropo openings other than coastal this year. Several times I have noticed coastal openings up to Maine but nothing to the coast or South. As K3ZSG pointed out last month, there seems to be considerable AM activity above 145 MHz and I have heard some say that they are tired of the FM type operation as being too restrictive and repetitive. Each has its uses however, and one should not forget that for mobile operation FM cannot be beat. The new 220 repeaters in the Philadelphia areas - yes we now have 2 of them! They are operating very nicely and the coverage, mobilwise, is very good.

There was a small aurora activity noted on the 14th of October but it was very poor both on 6 and 2 meters with nothing heard on 220 MHz. On two meters, I heard W8KPY, Ohio, K8HEG, Michigan and KLMTJ, Maine. K1WHS in Maine was also heard but on tropo with signals running S-7 or better.

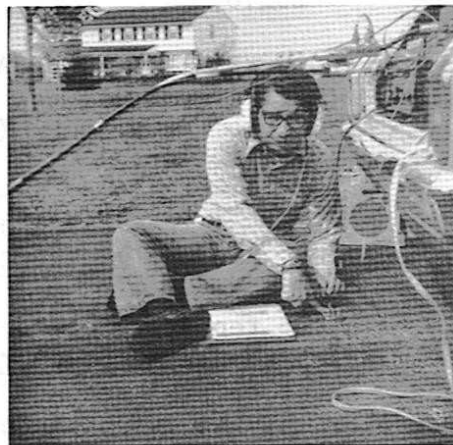
There is some SSB activity above 145 but it seems to be mostly medium or low power operation with comparatively small beams. It has been noted here that for consistent 250-300 mile operation the year around, one should use at least a pair of 4CX250 Bs, and an antenna with 15-20 db gain over a dipole. It is getting close to the January VHF Contest, which will be the 4th and 5th of January, 1975. So get your antenna work now. Also, get on and try out the rig. When they sit idle for any length of time, strange things happen like electrolytics drying out, tube pins becoming corroded in their sockets, etc. It might pay to remove and replace each tube if you can't take the time to do anything else.

* * *

MOONBOUNCE TRY SUCCESSFUL

On Saturday October 12, 1974, K2UYH assisted by WB2HHH set up a 1KW 432 MHz Moonbounce station in the driveway at the QTH of WA3AXV in Churchville, Pa. This installation was intended to be a try out prior to a Kentucky expedition as well as a signal availability for possible Pa. contacts from other areas. No contacts were made, but Al successfully heard his station in New Jersey.

The photos below show the 108 element array and the 432 rig in the station wagon. Al is also pounding out a message on terra firma.






MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC.



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K3MWM

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 <p>PHIL THEIS Clegg Div. General Manager K3TUF</p> <p>ISC 3050 Hempland Road Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17601</p> <p>TEL: (717) 299-3671 TELEX: 84-8438 CABLE: INTERSIG</p>	<p>(215) TU7-5032</p> <p>HARRY B. STEIN ASSOCIATES COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANTS</p> <p>HARRY B. STEIN</p> <p>2087 PARKDALE AVE. GLENSIDE, PA. 19038</p>
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WA2QOJ, Eric Lund of Green Br-
ook, N.J. won the FM 21 that was
raffled at the Pack Ra Hamarama.

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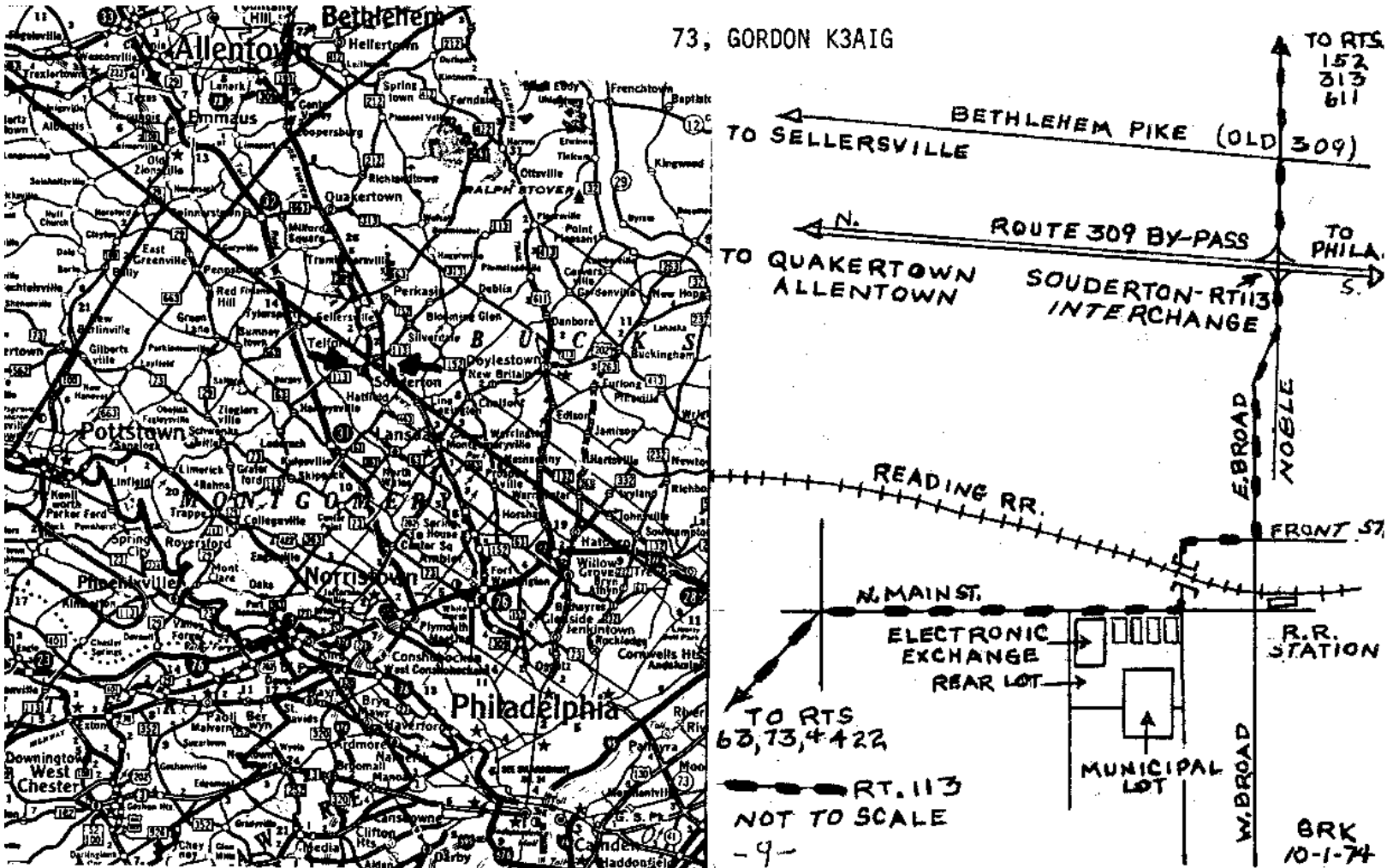
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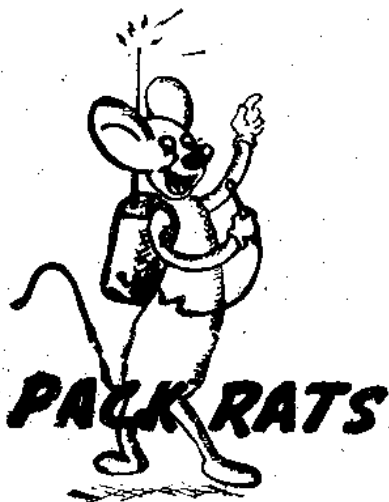
I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR MOVING TO LARGER QUARTERS TO BETTER SERVE YOUR AMATEUR RADIO AND ELECTRONIC NEEDS. AS IS THE CASE WITH ANY CHANGE, SOME PEOPLE ARE IN FAVOR AND SOME ARE AGAINST. FOR THOSE OF YOU FOR WHOM THE NEW LOCATION IS LESS CONVENIENT, I APOLOGIZE AND HOPE THAT YOU CAN STILL PATRONIZE THIS ESTABLISHMENT. THE LOCATION WAS CHOSEN AFTER MANY MONTHS OF SEARCHING, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT COST, SIZE, AND TRAVEL DISTANCE FOR ALL PAST CUSTOMERS AS A WHOLE.

THE NEW STORE IS EASILY REACHED FROM ROUTE 309 BY GETTING OFF AT THE SOUDERTON (ROUTE 113) EXIT. TAKE RT. 113 SOUTH (BROAD ST.) AND FOLLOW RT. 113 SIGNS UNTIL IT TURNS RIGHT ONTO MAIN STREET. ELECTRONIC EXCHANGE IS ON THE LEFT SIDE. THERE IS PARKING SPACE ON THE SIDE STREET, IN THE REAR OF THE BUILDING, AND IN A LARGE MUNICIPAL LOT, IN THE EVENT THE REAR LOT IS FULL. WE CAN BE REACHED BY TURNPIKE. USE LANSDALE EXIT AND TAKE RT. 63 WEST TO RT. 113, TURN RIGHT TO NORTH AND FOLLOW RT. 113 ONTO MAIN STREET. FROM RTs. 422, 73, & 63 PROCEED TO RT. 113 AND TURN TO NORTH AND FOLLOW RT. 113 TO ELECTRONIC EXCHANGE. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL FOR SPECIFIC DIRECTIONS FROM YOUR AREA. ALSO, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE VIA READING R.R.

EVEN THOUGH WE ARE MOVING TO LARGER QUARTERS, WE INTEND TO CONTINUE THE SAME PERSONALIZED SERVICE WHICH WE HAVE TRIED TO RENDER IN THE PAST. YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS NEW ENDEAVOR WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.



Cheese Bits
2087 Parkdale Ave.
Glenside, Pa. 19038



W3FQD Dick Huntzinger
130 Fairhill Drive
Churchville, Pa. 18966

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

FIRST CLASS

MEETING NOTICE