

PACK RATS'



PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

CHEESE BITS



MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILA., PA. ARNS
50-2, 144.2, 432.1, 1296 MHZ, WR3ACD - Repeater, 222.98/224.58 Mhz.
AFFILIATED CLUB: AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE
Meetings: Third Thursday of Each Month at 8:00 P.M.
Southampton Free Library, 947 E. Street Road
Southampton, Pennsylvania 18966

VOLUME XX

AUGUST 1978

NUMBER 8

THE PREZ SEZ

The first outdoor meeting of the year was the annual White Elephant Sale at Zimmermans's Gulch. A good sized turnout of Pack Rats and friends had a great time and picked up on some great bargans. Host, W3ZD was left with an ample supply of heavy duty paperweights and iron bookends. Thanks, Dave, for the usual well run affair.

Sunday, June 23 was the annual East Coast VHF Society flea market and antenna measuring contest in Trenton, N.J. Pack Rat friends Paul, WA2ZZF and Al, K2YUH, head up this affair which draws the top VHF'ers in the East each year. It's always good to see old friends from as far away as Northern Vermont and Southern Virginia each year as they gather to measure the gain of their latest antenna designs on 432, 1296 and 2304 Mhz. We had a good time comparing June Contest logs with some of the top groups in the country. Unofficially, the Mt. Greylock Group, W2SZ/1, beat out W3CCX by a slim 330 points. This amounts to only around two QSO's difference (out of a total of 1300 QSO's)! Of course after checking off the logs by ARRL the score could go either way, but there's good reason to expect the Pack Rats came in second this year. Whatever happens, it certainly shows that every contact counts. How many Pack Rats didn't bother to get on at home and contact W3CCX/3 in June? More than 2 or 3 I imagine.

But that's all past history now. What is more important is to look forward to the January Contest. This may seem early to think about January, but we cannot afford to be lackadasical. We obviously cannot count on automatically winning every contest just because we're the Pack Rats! This is especially true after seeing how close the Rochester VHF Group came to besting us this January. This year the January Contest effort will be spearheaded by Harry Brown, W3IIT, who has been studying the January Contest problem for some time now. Harry has a number of ideas on how to increase the club score, but they all require one common ingredient -- the enthusiasm and participation of all the Pack Rats. None of us can sit back and let everyone else do all the work.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

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W3IIT, Harry Brown (2 years)
WA3JUF, Dave Mascaro (2 years)
K3MWV, Dick Pierce (1 year)
WB2SZK, Randy Bynum (1 year)

MONDAY NIGHT NETS:

144.2 MHZ 7:30 PM
50.2 MHZ 8:30 PM
221.4/224.58 MHZ 9:00 PM
1296.3 MHZ 9:15 PM
432.1 MHZ 9:30 PM

NET CONTROL

W2EIF
W3CL
K3GAS
W2EIF
K3IUV

FRIDAY NIGHT ATV NET:

439.25 MHZ 7:00 PM


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CALENDAR OF COMMING EVENTS

Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

AUGUST

"Those lazy, hazy days are here...."

- 5/6 ARRL/UHF Microwave Contest
- 6 Shenandoah Valley ARC Hamfest, Berryville, Va. Info, P.O. Box 139, Winchester, Va.
- 10 Board of Directors Meeting, QTH, K3MXM, Lee Cohen, 8242 Brookside Avenue, Elkins Park, Pa., Phone 215-635-4942. Directors and interested parties are welcome and invited.
- 17 General Club Meeting, QTH, K3GAS. A growing Tradition. Slide and Ole times Nite, Special Pictures and films, commentary by our own W3CL Wives especially invited. A real fine social evening.
- 24 Hidden Transmitter Hunt, 7:15 p.m. Starting place: Shopping Center York and Street Roads, Hatboro, Pa. 224.58 Mhz the frequency.
- 25,26,27 Personal Computing 78 - Phila. Civic Center, over 300 display booths. 80 hours of free seminars. Info, Personal Computing, Rt. 1, Box 242, Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330
- 26 Hamarama Planning Meeting at QTH WA3AXV, Starts 10 A.M. Fold, lick, and stick session follows.
- 26 Tioga County ARC Hamfest, Perkiomenville Sales Grounds, Off Rts. 29 and 63, Perkiomenville, Pa. Talk-in 28/88 and .52

FUTURE HAPPENINGS:

- September 9-10 - ARRL VHF QSO Party. A good tune up for the January Contest.
10 - South Jersey ARC, Hamfest and Picnic, Mollia Farms, Maliaga, N.J.
30 - VHF Conference Fiesta Motor Lodge, Willow Grove, Pa.
- October 1 - HAMARAMA
6 - Gaithersburg Hamfest

The reason you can't take it with you -- it goes before you do....

* * *

Dropped From Membership: W2GIA, WA3LDQ, K3KUB, K3OPC, K3ZKO
Visitors at the July 20, 1978 Meeting: WA3VGT, Joe, Warrington, Pa.; WB3LFG, Jay, Cornwells Heights, Pa.; KA3AMO, Steve, Phila, Pa.; WB3CFW, Charlie, Blue Bell, Pa.; N3ADP, Scott, Doylestown, Pa.; W3TWD, Dick, Jenkintown, Pa.; WB2VLA, Dave, Trenton, N.J.; KA3ANR, Bill, Lansdale, Pa.; K3WJB, Drew, Phila., Pa.; WA3GHM, Gerd, Levittown, Pa.; W3BNQ, Sam, Blue Bell, Pa.; W3AVJ, Al, Phila., Pa.; Bud, Phila., Pa. Jane, Phila., Pa.

* * *

SPECIAL PURCHASE

Quantity purchase of RG8AU (98% shielded) coax at 20 cents a foot is being organized by Paul Randolph, WB3HHO. Please get in touch with him if interested on 215-NE2-5812

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. VHF Amp-Dual Band 2 & 1 1/4: UHF Industries has a line of four amplifiers, with power outputs of 15 to 80 watts. Two units operate with 1.5 watts input, the other two need 20 watts input drive power. All models cover the range 144-225 Mhz with no tuning required. Price, \$70 - 200. 840 E. Gunn Road., Rochester, Michigan 48063.
2. VHF Digital Wattmeter: The model WMD 6200 uses a four digit readout to monitor watts out, up to 200, forward and reverse, plus SWR readings up to 20/1. Unit requires an AC source for operation. Frequency range is 50-150 Mhz. Price \$200. Swan Electronics, 305 Airport Road, Oceanside, California 92054.
3. SWR Meter: Communications Power&Inc, is selling a WM 7000 SWR and wattmeter unit covering the HF Range. A 3 1/2" meter is used for good visual indications, and the unit can be switched to read peak or average power. Maximum reading is 1000 watts. Price \$70. 2407 Charleston Road, Mountain View, California 94043

* * *

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Jo, W2EIF

The Six meter band has produced some nice openings this summer. However, the openings seem to have tailed off as this is written July 20th. There were a number of flares from the Sun July 9, 10, 11 and 12. The flare on July 11 supposedly was one of the biggest ever recorded. Most thought that it would produce a fantastic aurora, but it was a disappointment in that what aurora was heard, was not very good. July 10 produced a very good opening to the South with FY7AS, HI8WPC and KZ5 being heard and worked by many.

Two meters has not shown much activity and one wonders where all the TS 700's went that were on last year. Back to the FM channels I suspect, and maybe for lack of a horizontal beam. There was one Es opening July 11 of very short duration about 9:00 P.M. I missed it as usual.

Have not heard much activity on 220 at the low end since the June QSO Party and the group that used to meet at 8:30 every Tuesday night seems to have given up for the Summer.

K4QIF is on almost every night at 9:00 P.M. on 1296 with WA3JUF and on Monday nights with WA2LTM. I can usually work Rusty when I think of getting on. He is about 230 miles from here.

I am hoping that the 220 and up ARRL Contest in August will produce some good action on the upper bands. The use of latitude and longitude (but not in that order) for the exchange may influence some not to participate. It means a lot more numbers to exchange but some like it that way.

It will be interesting because I think the major activity will be on 432.

* * *

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 716 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT JULY 13, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT: The ARRL Museum of Amateur Radio has been returned to the headquarters display area. Potential visitors to ARRL Headquarters are advised that the museum hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and that hourly tours of the headquarters complex are conducted at 9, 10 and 11 a.m. as well as 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. weekdays only. Visitors may operate WIAW between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays providing they have the original of their amateur radio license in their possession. ARRL will be closed to visitors on August 31 and September 4, 1978. AR

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Heathkit HW-16, Perfect condition, \$100. HG 10B, VFO (for above) \$40. Unique LW ner - new \$40. Heath 200 Khz to 30 Mhz Receiver - very good \$40. Comaire 6 meter tuner Mint \$15.

CONTACT: W3GVR, M. Zuger Mayer, 90 N. Hilltop Dr. Churchville, Pa. 18966
Phone: 215-357-2865

FOR SALE: Midland 13-510 2 mtr. FM rig Digital readout, MS-4 and 8A power supply and 80 watt amplifier. \$425.00.

CONTACT: Don DeRosa, WA3HVL
Phone: 215-924-8101

FOR SALE: R-48 220 Mhz, Receiver - AM or FM. Reasonable.

CONTACT: K3ESL, Ben Gindin
Phone: 215-JE 5-4619

FOR SALE: TC-2 2 mtr. transmitting converter cc-1 receiver converter console, cps-1 power supply, scc-1 VHF xtal calibrator, sc-2 2 mtr. converter. All in mint condition. Hygain 2 meter antennas, used. Model 28, 8 element, 14 ft. boom, Model 215B - 15 element 28 ft. boom.

Johnson 6 & 2 mtr. VFO 6N2
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CONTACT: Ed Adams, WA3EYI
Phone: 215-355-9120

FOR SALE: Wilson 1402 2 1/2 W.H.T. with 52, 34/94, 60/00 and 22/82 xtals \$175.00.
Clegg FM 27B with S-meter \$190, Drake TR22C with 81/21, 66/06, 16/76, 34/94, 28/88, 19/79, 60/00 and 52 xtals. with case. \$150 . National NC57 receiver covers broadcast thru 6 meters. \$35.

CONTACT: Dick Baker, WA3WVL,
Phone: 215-356-0232

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FOR SALE: ICOM 202 SSB transcvr built in VFO. Brand new.; Icom 215 2 mtr. FM Transcvr. 22 chan. crystal control, Brand new.; Hygain 2 meter H.T plus accessories, Mint.; Tempo FMH-2 H.T (Mint); Hygain HY SEAS Marine Radio retuned for 2 meters, accessories, (mint) white in color, great unit; YAESU memorizer (brand new); YAESU Frg-7 short wave receiver (mint); Commercial monitor & TV camera. (examine & name your offer); Icom 30A 432 Mhz transcvr. Brand new; Wilson 432 Mhz H.T w/charger, rubber duck, spkr/mic; carrying case, battery pack. (mint); Fanon Courier scanners VHF &UHF models available (brand new). Will consider trades on any of the items listed above. Our business is to serve your needs. B Plus Electronics, 2823 Kensington Ave. Owned and operated by Joe, WB3GEL and Tony, K3UKW. 215-RE 9 - 8616 is our telephone number!!

* * *

TID BITS

Doc, K3GAS, says "That old cliché due to increased costs, applies to Cheese-Bits as well as Cadillacs. We must raise the subscription price for our fine paper effective immediately. The cost will be \$2.00 per year. As a subscription runs out, you will be notified on the first page to resubscribe.

Had a very pleasant surprise visit with Charley and Edith Koelsh (ex W3FOZ) last month. They both looked fine and are doing well in Florida. Charley reported on the 2 meter net the evening of June 26th from over in N.J. His Florida call is WA4OJO and he operates 20 meters and 2 F. Hello to the Pack-Rats from FOOZY.

Thanks to Frank Geyer, W2VSV/3 for the FB components contributed to the Club. He loaded down K3MXX's van!!

We are saddened to report the death of Sarah Coin (XYL of deceased W3IA) on Monday, July 17, 1978. Condolenses to the family.

The fine monthly publication: SPARC-GAP. of the Shore Points Amateur Radio Club is now on our club paper exchange list. Our good wishes to Monte Tremont, WB2EYF their editor. (Monte, please note that the Pack-Rats meet on the third Thursday of the month - TU)

It was good to see Rich Albert, K3HIN up and about again at our White Elephant Sale. Looking good Rich!

Glad that Ric, K3QQ was able to hobble to the meeting also.

A club construction project is in the wind. Possibly a transverter using a 28 Mhz IF to step up to the higher bands. Wonder how many are interested.

THE PREZ SEZ CONTINUED

We must all try to improve our stations and operating techniques and most of all put in the time and effort for the club.

If every Pack Rat does the very best he is capable of - no matter how advanced or how modest his station - we will win the January VHF SS once again. But it won't happen automatically! Think about it - you get out of it what you put into it - maybe this year is really "Time For A Million".

73,

Bill, W3HQT

* * *

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 715 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT JULY 6, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT: The twenty-third ARRL National Convention will be held this year at the Town and Country Convention Center in San Diego, California, from September 22 through 24. Programs of interest to all radio amateurs and their families, as well as special ARRL symposiums will be featured. Full details will appear in the August issue of QST. Final details may be obtained by writing the sponsoring group's general Chairman, Sam Dear, K6BWT, 13031 Papago Drive, Poway, California 92064 or by telephone area code 714-566-7893. AR

* * *

From HR Report Number 211, July 21, 1978

CENTRAL STATES VHF CONFERENCE comes up August 17-20 in Rochester, Minnesota. It will feature W2HD, K2RIW, W3GEY, and other notables on its program. W0VB has the details.

ANOTHER SUPER POWER RADAR is reported to be about ready for test in or near unspecified Amateur VHF/UHF bands. Any reports of reception of pulse-type signals in the Amateur bands should be reported to ARRL and HR Report. The system in question is supposed to be a 10-15 megawatt over-the-horizon radar.

NO PROPAGATION EFFECTS were reported by press time from the ionospheric heating tests being conducted by the Air Force over Platteville, Colorado, this week (HRR 105, 210). Any observation of unusual propagation from the tests would be appreciated. W9JUV

* * *

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-Guru Maharaj Ji

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