

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 XXI

MARCH, 1979

NUMBER 3

The Prez Sez

A week of sub-zero temperatures and 1 1/2 feet of new fallen snow remind us all that Spring is just around the corner! As I write this, I find myself completely snowed in, with nothing to do but shovel snow and operate the radio. Unfortunately, the VHF bands are dead -- but there is plenty of snow. On days like this, we all dream of warm days, mountain top expeditions to rare steaks, pelicans skimming over the waves in Santa Verónica, E-skip, Summer free nights, the Pack-Rat Banquet, the June Contest, and the White Elephant sale. Time to start preparing for the coming season!

Despite the inclement weather, however, 57 Pack-Rats and friends made it to the February General Meeting. It was the annual Home-Brew Nite and 20 home brewers were on hand with almost 50 projects. Not a bad turn out for a night of sleet and freezing rain. In fact, many of the members present were surprised to see there were others there as crazy as themselves.

Don't forget the following upcoming events:

Pack-Rat Banquet on Saturday evening May 5

The June Contest, June 9-10.

I will wait another month until I get on my soap box about the June Contest, but if you have any suggestions or questions, contact Jim, N3AHL.

See you all on the air and March 15th.

73, Bill, W3HQT

* * *

VOTED TO MEMBERSHIP

N3ACV, Jack Korpi
1403 N. Keim St.
Pottstown, Pa. 19464
215-326-7438

K3NHX, Joseph F. Gardocki - XYL, Anne, K3NEW
72 Meadow Lane
Doylertown, Pa. 18901
215-348-3504

K3LYB, Abel Pasiecznyk - XYL, Rose
2437 Fairmount Avenue
Phila., Pa. 19130
215-FO 5-0517

Pack Rats CHEESE BITS is a publication of THE MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC. Philadelphia, Pa. and is published monthly.

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SWAP SHOP ITEMS - no charge.

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

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209 Frog Hollow Road
Churchville, Pa. 18966
215-355-5730

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#5 Sunnybrook Court
Stratford, N.J. 08084
609-783-9478

CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3CL, Harry B. Stein

OFFICERS: 1978-1979

PRESIDENT: W3HQT, Bill Olson
VICE-PRES: WA3NFV, Dan Mitten
COR. SECY: WB3HHO, Paul Randolph
REC. SECY: K3IGX, Dick Boyle
TREASURER: K3GAS, Doc Cutler

DIRECTORS:

W3HMU, Tony Souza (Ex-Officio)
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

PACK RAT REPEATER - WR3ACD - 222.98/224.58

Churchville, Pa.

1-302-478-2757

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and
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UPPER DARBY, PA. 19082

215-674-0300



LAFAYETTE RADIO ELECTRONICS
"Associate Store"
537 Easton Road
Horsham, Pa. 19044



Bruce Clark

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

MARCH

PAY YOUR DUES

Quote of the Month: "Experience varies directly with the amount of equipment ruined" de WD8DYC or "No project is ever a total failure - it can always be used as a bad example" Ibid.

- 3-4 ARRL 45th International DX competition (Phone) See Page 86 Jan. QST for details
- 3 For you Snowbirds - Orlando Florida Hamfest.
- 5 First Day of Lent
- 8 Board of directors Meeting - QTH, Harry Borwn, W3IIT, 3012 Potshop Road, Norristown, Pa. Directors and interested parties always invited. Phone: 215-584-4846.
- 9 For you History Buffs - Monitor vrs Merrimac - 1862
- 13 Purim
- 13 Mid-Atlantic Computer Expo - New York City
- 15 General Club Meeting, Southampton Free Library, Street Road, Southampton, Pa. Topic: To be announced on nets. The Mario Raffle, Frankie's Silent Auction, Refreshments. An open meeting to all - Amateurs and their friends...
- 15 Gold First Discovered in California 1848
- 17-18 ARRL 45th International Dx Competition (CW)
- 17 The Day of The Green, St. Patrick's Day
- 17 Flemington, N.J. Hamfest. Hunterdon Central High School, Info: Cherryville Repeater Association, RD 3, Box 336, Milford, N.J.
- 20 Spring Officially Begins.
- 24 Knight Raiders VHF Club Hamfest, St. Joseph Church, East Rutherford, N.J. Info: Bob Kovalski, Phone: 201-473-7113
- 27 First Coast to Coast TV Program 1955
- 30 U.S. Purchase of Alaska 1867, what with today's oil conditions, maybe the U.S. should have bought Arabia at the same time...

* * *

UPCOMING IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Penn Wireless Assn. Tradefest -1979, Sunday, April 1, 1979, National Guard Armory Roosevelt Boulevard and Southampton Road, Phila., Pa.
- Trenton Computer Festival "TCF-79" April 21 & 22, 1979 Trenton State College, Trenton N.J. For info. call 609-771-2487
- Dayton Hamvention, Dayton HARA Arena, April 27, 28, 29, 1979 - Box 44 Dayton, Ohio 45401 for info.
- Pack-Rat Banquet and Ladies Nite, May 5, 1979, Warrington Motor Lodge, Rte. 611 above Street Road, Cocktails 6 P.M., Dinner 7 P.M. Special Events.
- 40th Anniversary YLRL Convention, June 29, 30. July 1, 1979. Holiday Inn, 4th and Arch Sts., Phila., Pa. Chairman, WB2YBA, Christine Haycock. For info. locally contact W3AAU, Edith Rosner, 215-HO 4-2665.
- Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference, October 6, 1979, Warrington Motor Lodge, Warrington, Pa. W3ZD, Chairman.

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. CLEGG LOW FREQ. CONV. (RECEIVING): The New AB 144 is designed to be used ahead of one of the Multi-mode 2 meter T/R units. Frequencies from 100 Khz to 30 Mhz are up-converted to the 144-148 Mhz I.F. The receiving range is covered in 8 bands of 4 Mhz each. Unit operates from 12 VDC at 30 ma. A single band version MB 144 is also available to cover any 4 Mhz seg...of the HF band. Price \$130. (MB 144-\$60)

2. COAX PROBE: This unit is inserted in the coax line of any rig in the range 1.8 to 150 Mhz. The output connector is then used to couple to a counter or scope for monitoring of the transmitted signal. Max. power rating through the probe is 2 KW. Price \$12.95. Coaxprobe Co., P.O. Box 426, Portage, MI 49081

3. DIGITAL CAPACITANCE METER: B & K Co. has just introduced the Model 820. This 4 digit meter will measure capacitors in the range of 0.1 Pf to 1 Farad in 10 switch selected ranges. Unit is very compact and battery operated, with a rechargeable battery pack available. Price \$130. 6460 Cortland St., Chicago, Ill. 60635.

* * *

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Joe, W2EIF

(January 18 to February 15, 1979)

The bands above 50 Mhz have shown normal activity for this time of year. Two meters shows activity on SSB both at 144.1 and at 144.2 plus or minus. There was a fair aurora on 6 and 2 Jan. 23 and there is indication of more after Feb. 15.

The big news concerns 50 Mhz. The band was open to South American with K4ERO/HK1 coming thru on Jan. 27. It was also open to S.A. Feb. 12 with the repeater station in Columbia at 50.075 coming in strongly. This opening favored the Midwest and Northeast.

Many have been observing the BBC and Russian TV audio signals coming in from Europe and use them as signals indicating the rising MUF. The Russian signal is at 49.75 Mhz.

Feb. 10 Russian video was heard and WB2RLK/VEI worked an English station for the first cross Atlantic 6 to 10 meter contact of the New Sun Spot Cycle. W2IDZ was the first on the East Coast to make it when he worked G3COJ crossband.

The ten meter frequency to watch is 28.450 + 10 or 15 Khz or so. There are also reports of stations listening at 28.7 and 28.885 Mhz.

The best opening crossband to date occurred Feb. 15 from about 8:30 to 10 a.m. EST. Stations heard here were G3FXB, G3BA, G4CPW and DJ2RE. I was fortunate to work G3FXB and DJ2RE. G3FXB was very strong at about 28.450 and seemed to be working stations on the East Coast on 6 meters from Maryland to Connecticut.

G3FXB reports that EI2W who was on 6 meters in 1957-58 never had his 6 meter permit cancelled and there is a possibility that he may again operate on 6 meters this cycle.

DJ2RE also stated that he was hearing the South African beacon on the 14th of February.

If this kind of activity is any indication of things to come, we are in for an exciting time on 6 meters in the next year.

NOTE: On February 18, 1979, W3HQT and N3AHI worked ZB2BL Gibraltar on 50.004 Mhz/CW.

* * *

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

K2KRC/3, Frank H. Bremer, XYL, Nilsa
175 W. Albanus Street
Phila., Pa. 19120
215-455-6576.

* * *

VISITORS AT THE FEBRUARY 15, 1979 MEETING

WB3LRQ, Nick Pino, Lansdale, Pa.
AF3M, Mary, Bethlehem, Pa.
WA3TSE, Bill Letvenko, Doylestown, Pa.
N2AQJ, Ed Morgan, Burlington, N.J.
WA3EHD, Jim Antonucci, Roslyn, Pa.

WB3FJQ, Bert Bertozzi, Lansdale, Pa.
WB3KNU, Hugh, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.
KA3ANH, Bill Nace, Lansdale, Pa.
WB3IHY, Joe Garber, Phila., Pa.
Ian Janssen, Churchville, Pa.

SIX METER EXCITEMENT

The upswing of Solar Cycle 21 has stirred activity on six meters. The following list of TV station frequencies from around the world are useful in monitoring for the MUF.
(submitted by K3MWV; borrowed from March 1979 Popular Electronics)

<u>MHZ</u>	<u>CHANNEL</u>	<u>AUDIO/VIDEO</u>	<u>WHERE USED</u>	<u>MHZ</u>	<u>CHANNEL</u>	<u>AUDIO/VIDEO</u>	<u>WHERE USED</u>
41.25	F2	AM	France(many), Monaco	53.25	B3	AM	U.K.(many)
41.48	B1-	AM	N.Ireland	53.75	E2	FM	Europe, Africa, Mideast (many)
41.50	B1	AM	U.K. (many)	53.75	ItA	V	Italy (many)
41.52	B1+	AM	Wick, U.K.	53.76	E2+	FM	Europe
41.547	B1++	AM	Cornwall, U.K.	53.77	E2++	AM	Belgium
44.993	B1	V	N. Ireland	54.40	F4	AM	France
45.00	B1	V	U.K (many)	55.24	A2-	V	N. & S. America (many)
45.007	B1+	V	Wick, U.K.	55.25	A2	V	N. & S. America (many)
45.047	B1++	V	Cornwall, U.K.	55.25	E3	V	Europe, Africa, Asia (many)
45.25	NZ1	V	New Zealand(several)	56.25	R1	FM	China, USSR, Eastern Europe
46.25	Au0	V	Australia (several)	56.75	B3	V	U.K.
48.23	B2-	AM	U.K.	57.25	Au1	V	Australia(several)
48.25	B2	AM	U.K. (many)	57.75	--	V	China
48.25	E2	V	Europe, Africa, Mideast (many)	58.23	B4 - -	AM	U.K.
48.26	E2+	V	Europe	58.25	B4	AM	U.K. (many)
48.27	B2++	AM	U.K.	59.25	R2	V	USSR, E. Europe
49.75	E2A,R1	V	Austria,E.Europe, USSR, China(many)	59.25	ItA	FM	Italy (many)
50.75	NZ1	FM	New Zealand(several)	59.74	A2	FM	N. & S. America (many)
51.743	B2-	V	U.K.	59.75	A2	FM	N. & S. America (many)
51.75	B2	V	U.K. (many)	59.76	A2+	FM	N. & S. America (many)
51.75	Au0	FM	Australia(several)	60.75	E3	FM	Europe (many)
51.757	B2+	V	U.K.	61.743	B4 -	AM	U.K.
52.40	F2	V	France(many), Monaco	61.75	B4	AM	U.K. (many)

* * * *

WINNERS IN THE "HOMEBREW NITE" EVENT

BEST CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUE

- 1st - K3MWV - 432 MHZ Solid State Station
- 2nd - WB3FJQ - 144 MHZ Solid State Power Amp.

MOST ORIGINAL PROJECT

- 1st - WA3AXV - 432 MHZ Solid State Station
- 2nd - WB3IHY - Can-Tenna

MOST AMBITIOUS PROJECT

- 1st - WB2SZK - 1 milliwatt to 1KW 432 MHZ
- 2nd - K3QQ - Dual band 144/220 MHZ Qwad

BEST MICROWAVE PROJECT

- 1st - W3CXU - 1296 MHZ Loop Yagi
- 2nd - WA3JUF - 1296 MHZ PreAmp

BEST SOLID STATE PROJECT

- 1st - K3IUV - 450 MHZ Special "Box"

MOST MISERABLE FAILURE

- 1st - N3EG - Keyer memory project/ no memory!
- 2nd - N3MW - Metal Detector- detects everything else!

* * * *

W2AXU REPORTS the monthly provisional number for January 1979 is 165.8... Add this to the list published last months Cheese-Bits under Zurich monthly mean relative sunspot numbers - Cycle no. 21... The Zurich smooth number for June 1978 is 87.

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.
SUMMARY OF CONTEST SCORES, JAN. 13-14, 1979
VHF SWEEPSTAKES

CALL	CONTACTS	SECTIONS	SCORE	CALL	CONTACTS	SECTIONS	SCORE
WA3AAJ	309	7	12648	W3IIT	425	16	27300
K3ACR	415	12	21384	WA3IMT	50	2	1200
N3AHI	511	23	41184	K3IPM	255	23	17094
W3AJF	202	13	10580	K3IQO	195	4	6132 *
WA3AQA	254	12	13860	K3IUU	474	19	36540
WB3ATA	322	13	19458	K3JJZ	362	12	19976 *
WA3AXV	760	26	65880	WA3JUF	348	17	24948
K3BPP	369	14	22992	WB3KES	179	2	5616
W3BRU	38	3	988	W3KKN	607	21	45198 *
WB3CDE	432	21	31620	K3KMN	52	2	1272
W3CJU	312	13	17710	K3KTY	134	12	6776
W3CL	357	10	18520	K3LOM	420	16	25428
W3CLT	82	6	3424	N3MW	442	15	25400
WB3CPW	212	11	10584	K3MWV	685	24	56644
W3CXU	179	11	10542	K3MXM	214	8	9792
K3DLS/M3	67	2	3216	WA3NFV	244	16	12688
K3DMA	310	11	15288	WA1NGR/3	286	26	21312
WA2DFU	609	25	49840	W3NSI	200	8	9540
N3EG	350	7	14212	WA3NUF	289	12	13904
W2EIF	443	19	33872	K3OBY	23	2	552
K3EPB	151	7	6562	WA3OVH	217	2	6672
WA3EPS	88	2	2112	K3PHY	87	2	3168
K3ESL/M3	10	2	240	WA3PUL	103	4	3920
WA3FOF	317	10	15640 *	K3QQ/M3	154	5	6690
W3FQD	133	3	4576	WA3QWO	29	1	770
K3GAS	232	9	10868	WB2RXM	17	2	768
W2GGB	138	2	4560	W3SMK	201	13	12098
K3GOZ	229	3	5954	WA3SPR	1	1	44
K3HES	46	2	1104	WB2SZK	465	23	37488
W3HFX	550	20	41280	AE3T	413	20	28620
WB3HHO	333	4	11564 *	WA3TEM	74	2	3552
WB3HHP	329	4	11452	K3VEQ	12	2	288
WA3HIT	317	3	10036	K3VYG	207	6	8800
W3HK	100	7	3944	WA3WAS	398	13	22080
W3HKZ	89	6	2848	WA3YUE	306	14	19344 *
W3HMU	414	21	34720	W3YXF	10	1	440
W3HQT	659	28	62092				
WA3HVL	118	2	3984 *				
K3IGX	194	10	10680				

TOTAL CLUB SCORE 1,184,072

* Multi-Op

The committee wishes to thank Ron, WA3AXV and his family for hosting the contest wrap-up meeting on January 27, 1979. Coordinators and many club members turned out to give a helping hand. Contest note: Howard, K3HW took leave from the USS PARGO to come down and multi-op with WA3FOF. K3HIN, Rich, bad foot and all, multi-op'd with K3IQO before turning in to the hospital for surgery. K3DLS, flitted from WA3HVL to WA3FOF and then went out in his own mobile to run up a modest score. Bruce, WA3YUE became ill toward the tail-end the contest so K3QQ suspended his mobile operation and came to the rescue.

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE OR TRADE: 35 ft. tapered aluminum lighting pole; 8" OD at base, 4-1/2" top; 1/2" thk wall steel ext. tapering to 2" OD for rotar mtg. Hvy base hinge & top extension steel; can be galvanized for \$65 or painted. Hvy duty mast assem. ideal for large dish or EME array-\$120

Telrex 2 mtr. 16 el. beam, 28' 1-1/2" 6061ST alum. boom, support rods and 50 ohm Balun- \$10
Cushcraft 40 el. col. 432 mhz array, new and assembled; stainless hrdware all painted with epoxy paint. Matchg sections, fittings, balun mtg. hrdware & bkts and dwg. - \$20

220 mhz Yagi-VHF hndbk design- 12 el. 1-1/4" 6061ST alum. boom 14' lg. stainless hrdwre & "U" bolts. Needs new Gamma match - \$8
R-48 Rcvr for 220 mhz. Excellent condx - \$5
1900V. 700+ MA. pole pig xfmr PC brd with HV silicon rect. caps, and res. ntwk. replaces 866's. swng chokes, smoothing choke, Mallory computer grade 240 mfd 450V. caps. mtd. in bottom of relay rack - Best offer.

CONTACT: John Allen, W3CXU
1119 Highland Ave.
Glenside, Pa. 19038
Phone: 215-886-4109

FOR SALE: Tower- RBX 60, EZ Way telescope, tilt-er with wonder ground post; complete, FOB Glenside, Pa. (PennARC) - \$650

CONTACT: Pete Shavney, WA3RCA
Phone: 215-886-1859

FOR SALE: Pair Heathkit SB300/SP400- clean & in excellent operating condition.

CONTACT: Bruce Loss, WA3YUE
3747 Warfield Dr.
Huntindon Valley, Pa. 19006
Reach me on Pack-Rat 220 Rptr.

FOR SALE: Heathkit Transistor Intercom System- 1- Master Unit Model XI-1, built in pwr Sply. 4- Remotes, Model XIR-1 with intercom wire. All in excellent condition- \$25

CONTACT: Doc Cutler, K3GAS
7815 New Second St.
Elkins Park, Pa. 19117
Phone: 215-635-1078

FOR SALE: RME 4300 rcvr, 160-10 mtrs, SSB/CW/AM \$40. Hallicrafters HT37 xmtr, 160 W. CW/SSB/AM with Vox - \$80

WANTED: Cheap HF Transceiver (no Collins S line)
CONTACT: Earl Garber, N3EG
Phone: 215-677-1699

FOR SALE: Unimetrics Ultracom 25, 146 MHZ FM, 25W. out with 16/76; 34/94; 94/94; 76/76; 52/52 - \$90. With pwr sply - \$100

Lowrance Depth Finder; 0-120 Ft. 12VDC - \$35
Eska 10 speed fishing motor, 12VDC- \$25

CONTACT: Randy Bynum, WB2SZK
Phone: 609-567-1723

FOR SALE: Drake TR6 with pwr sply & NB -\$650
56' square alum. tower, 8 ft. sections -\$275
HyGain 402BA, new in the box - \$125

Kenwood Transverters; TV502, 2mtrs w/preamp-\$225... TV506, 6 mtrs -\$225 Both like new in the box.

CONTACT: Bill Smith, WA2DPU
Phone: 609-386-4504

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Sylvania 23 in. console color TV. Requires minor pwr sply wrk. Best offer or will trade for 432 transmit converter; pwr amp; or 220 MHZ FM rig.

CONTACT: Howard Sherer, AE3T
Phone: 215-584-0280

* * * *

HELP! HELP! HELP!

NEED ANY AND MANY ITEMS FOR FLEA MARKET. HELP SPONSOR PENN JERSEY YOUNG LADIES ACTIVITIES FOR THE JUNE YLRL CONVENTION IN PHILLY. ANY MEDIUM OR SMALL ITEM (old and patched blue jeans, any size, are a hot item)- PLEASE NO PLANTS OR ELECTRICAL ITEMS.
CALL BERT, W3TNP AND SHE WILL PICK UP DONATIONS. PHONE: 215-OL9-3485.... THANK YOU.

* * * *

ARRL BULLETIN NR 6 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT FEBRUARY 15, 1979 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT A vital public service is again being performed via amateur radio. Over the past few days, amateurs have been providing the only reliable link between the U.S. State Department, the Pentagon, Andrews Air Force Base and Iran. Since message traffic involving the immediate safety of life is being passed, all amateurs not actively involved in this effort are requested to avoid those frequencies being used AR

A VISIT WITH A LEGEND

By Dave Zimmerman, W3ZD

Seldom in his lifetime does one get the chance to rub elbows with the pages of history. When it does happen, the occasion is memorable, and it is possible that others might like to hear of it.

Recently, ye editor and I had the chance to visit with Clarence D. Tuska, first secretary and co-founder with Hiram Percy Maxim of the ARRL. The purpose was to discuss some old issues of QST. The meeting took place in the beautiful home of Mr. Tuska and covered a variety of subjects. To those of us who have spent the major part of life involved with amateur radio, reading its history and folklore, the event could be compared to a historian meeting with Abraham Lincoln.

To begin, Mr. Tuska is 81 years young, and looks it. He has a bright cheery smile, a steel-like look to his eyes, and a very pleasant personality. Conversation with him shows that here is a man with an agile, alert mind. His answers to the many questions fired at him by Harry and I were carefully measured. He phrased his responses in most cases by qualifying sections that needed it, and by rejecting those parts of leading questions which may not have been true. He related stories and episodes in his life, and in his association with Hiram and the league which were absolutely fascinating. He told us things we did not know, and gave the proper context to other things which we had heard about, perhaps only vaguely.

Mr. Tuska played a pivotal role in the formation of QST and ARRL. His association with amateur radio did not span as many years as did that of Hiram Percy Maxim, but may well have been more crucial. Here we have the young energetic lad of 18, at the right place at the right time, with a fire of enthusiasm for a new blossoming hobby responding to a need. Amateur radio was floundering, as the young radio club of Hartford well knew. Their efforts to create a national organization fell short for lack of a bulletin. Information on new discoveries took months to circulate, and new findings were cropping up almost daily. The bulletin created for this purpose was an instant success from the standpoint of the objective, but the effort to produce those first issues, and the personal sacrifice we can only imagine. I feel there would not be enough hours in the week to get and keep an effort such as QST rolling. Yet, Mr. Tuska and the dedicated working with him did persevere, and amateur radio owes all of them a debt.

The defense efforts and the recruiting of the league and QST may well have also been pivotal in WW I. Radio was new to the military; they had to be convinced to use it before any recruiting of operators could begin, and we all know how obtuse the military can be! Mr. Maxim and Mr. Tuska did the mammoth job of beating the War Department over the head, ran QST without compensation for months as a recruiting bulletin (for the advertisers had vanished) and Mr. Tuska capped this with the establishment of training schools for the growing requirements of our armed forces. These schools provided the radio operators, more than 5,000, for the vital communications in WW I. After World War I he worked with various radio companies including RCA in connection with patent work. He has authored a number of books on patent procedures.

Nowadays, Clarence keeps busy by attending some meetings and on Wednesdays gets together with his son and does fine woodworking.

Before I ramble on, and fill all six pages of Cheese Bits, let me finish by saying that Harry and I were both honored by the chance to visit with Mr. Tuska. He accorded to us a chance for a peek behind the pages of history, and we will always be grateful for this.

HERE WE GO - AGAIN!

By Jim, N3AHI

Those were W3HQT's remarks concerning our June Contest effort in last month's Cheese Bits - well said Bill. Seriously, as a newcomer to the Club, having been aware of your long-time premier standing in the VHF/UHF radio world, I'd like to say that I'm pleased and proud to be one of you. Now, to the job at hand. As you might know, the Prez sort of hoodwinked me into taking the June Contest Chairman's role, and now that I've got the job, I'm well fueled. You see, when all the dust from the VHF SS settles, I strongly suspect that thanks to your efforts, we'll have collectively put the Pack Rats out in front of the crowd by a much greater margin than ever before! Therefore, we now have a unique opportunity in 1979, to dominate the VHF Contest scene - Totally! By now, you've probably figured out what I'm leading up to....that's right, with your help, I want us to win in June and win big if that's possible.

Preliminary organization work has already begun, and the first preparatory meeting of band captains (and any other interested parties) will be held February 22nd at K3IUU's. I'll keep you posted as things begin taking shape. Rest assured your help will be needed and I won't be afraid to ask for it. In the meantime, don't let your Contest operating skills get rusty. Lets make 1979 the year of the RAT!

* * *

TID BITS

Happy 30th Birthday to the Philmont Mobile Radio Club.

Congratulations to the Warrington Area Repeater Association. Bruce Gilman, WB3CFE Editor of their paper "QUA" received 1st prize in group IC (200-299 copies) of the ARNS publication contest. Cheest-Bits won 2nd place in Group ID (300-399 copies).

Doc Cutler, K3GAS, is registration Chairman of the Annual Meeting of the Philadelphia County Dental Society Starting March 11, 1979 at the Sheraton Hotel, 17th and J.F. Kennedy Boulevard. If you are in Phila. during the three day affair, stop in and see Doc.

Congratulations to Tony Souza, W3HMU who has a technical article (432 Mhz 2 KW PEP amplifier) in the 21st Edition of the Radio Handbook.

K3KTY, John Tate has a bad knee - spent some time in a wheel chair while visiting Las Vegas. Hope the problem with the knee clears soon.

The Club 144 Mhz Transverter project has gotten under way - 28 Mhz to 144 Mhz. Cost to members \$50.00.

WB2SZK, Design Coordinator, Assistants W3HQT and W3IIT.

WB2RXM, Carl Mattiace, writes that he expects to get a decent antenna system one of these days. Meanwhile, he asks that W3CL aim his antennas toward South Jersey on Monday nite nets.

Don't forget the ARRL Nite of the Club on May 17, 1979 at the Southampton Free Library. Pass the word to your Ham friends. The speaker for the evening from the ARRL will be announced at a later date.

Roxanne, XYL K3LOM received her new call KA3CBY. Their daughter Altair passed the test and is waiting for the call letters. Congratulations!

Our submariner Hal Weinstein, K3HW, will be leaving for the West Coast soon for duty on the USS Dolphin. Good Luck, Hal.

* * *

Quickie Quiz - Can an individual see further in the day or at nite???

Answer: In the day time the further a person can see is the Sun some 93 million miles away while at nite a person can see the stars millions of light years away....

Did you know that a Mr. Thomas Crapper invented the first flush toilet in 1878 and this is how we get that famed remark....

As of 12/31/78 there were 353,336 Licensed Amateurs up from 328,648 on 12/31/77.

Want to change your call sign -- Advance class licensees may do so after 1/1/79. Advanced Licensees may expect a Group B (2x2) call sign when they renew 60 days before their normal expiration of license. Contact FCC for forms.



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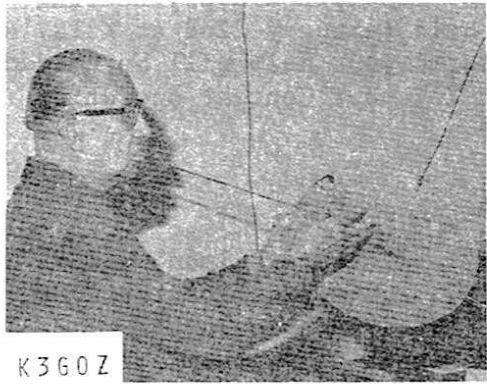
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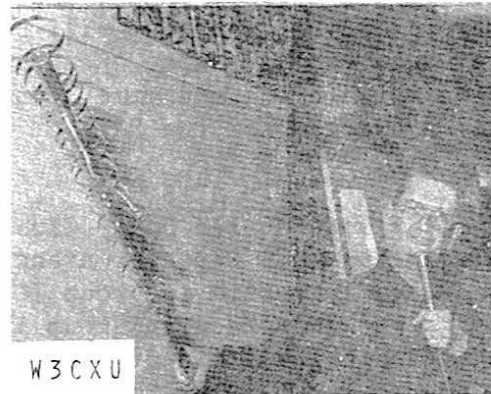
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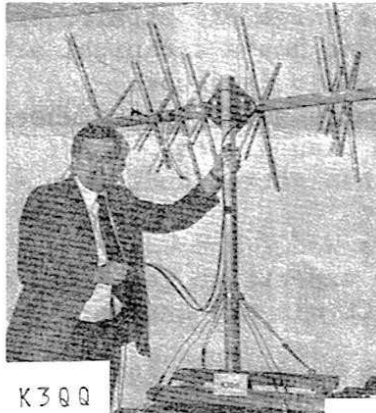
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