

PACK RATS'



PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

CHEESE BITS



MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

50.125, 144.50, 432.110, 1296.025 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

ARNS

VOLUME XXIII

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NUMBER 2

THE PREZ SEZ

Thanks to everyone's pitching in. It looks like the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club will again come out on top after the results are counted in the January VHF Sweepstakes. I'd like to thank Steve, WA3WAS, for his enthusiasm and organization. As usual, he and everyone else put in a large amount of time and effort getting ready as well as working the contest. This year will bring our No. 21 gavel if my arithmetic is correct and we've done it this year the usual way - hard work by everyone from the guy with a kw on each band to the guy with a single band mobile rig - thanks again everybody.

The February meeting brings one of the most interesting club meetings for me since it is the annual "homebrew night". If you've been to one of these meetings before, you'll realize that ham built and designed equipment is a long way from being dead and vhf'ers among others are not just appliance operators. The quality of workmanship and design ranges wide but the best is as good or better than anything you'll see published in any of the magazines. Who knows what this year's meeting will bring, but in the past we've seen many kw amplifiers, transverters; many low noise preamps, antennas, and about everything else that you might need to make a station operate better (and a few that won't help at all). They're not from kits and most are not available in any form from any manufacturer (USA or anywhere else). Come bring your latest creation(s) and tell us how well it works (or doesn't). We all learn from each other when it comes to building and it's a good place to learn from the other guys' mistakes. Everyone is welcome as usual, so bring that latest creation no matter if you're a club member or not.

Just coming off of one big contest brings us to the next - the June VHF QSO Party. Bill, W3HQT, is heading up the effort this year and again I expect the usual questions to be asked - Are we going out to win or to have fun? I think the answer will also be the usual one - both. You have a choice this year in helping out in the contest - you can either volunteer or be drafted - check with Bill or the various band captains when they're announced.

73, Harry, W3IIT

* * *

Note: Charlie, K3HSS has provided a report titled "A general review of TVI causes, effects and solutions." If you're interested in starting a TVI committee or having a copy of the report, please contact me. Harry, W3IIT

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DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING: THE THIRD THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH

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609-783-9478

CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3CL, HARRY B. STEIN

MONDAY NIGHT NETS NET CONTROL

7:30 PM - 50.125 MHZ	W3CL
8:00 PM - 144.150 MHZ	W2EIF
8:30 PM - 222.98/224.58	K3GAS
9:00 PM - 432.1 MHZ	K3IUU
9:30 PM - 1296.025 MHZ	W3CXU

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REC. SECY: K3IGX, DICK BOYLE
TREASURER: K3GAS, DOC CUTLER
DIRECTORS:

W3HQT, BILL OLSON (Ex-Of)
WA2DPU, BILL SMITH (2yrs)
K3NHX, JOE GARDOCKI (2yrs)
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WA3NFV, DAN MITTEN (1yr)

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HARRY AND ROSE DAN AND LUCY
W3IIT WA3NFV

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

FEBRUARY

- 2 Ground Hog Day - well, what's it going to be this year - Shadow or no shadow; Fast Spring or Late Spring....
- 7-8 For you Snowbirds - Miami, Florida Hamfest
- 8 Boy Scout Day
- 9 First Weather Bureau Established - organized by the Signal Corps, 1870
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 12 Board of Directors Meeting - QTH, W3CL, Harry B. Stein, 2087 Parkdale Avenue, Glenside, Pa. If lost 887-5052. Directors and interested parties ALWAYS invited.
- 14 VALENTINE DAY - Don't forget those flowers and that box of candy
- 15 "Remember the Maine" - Battleship blow up in Havana Harbor - 1898
- 19 General Club Meeting - HOME BREW NITE. Bring in those projects you have been making all Winter and bring them to the light of day and for your peers inspection.. Southampton Free Library, Street Rd., Southampton, Pa. 8:00 P.M. The Mario Raffle, Frankie's Silent Auction, Refreshments - - An open meeting to one and all!!
- 21-22 International ARRL Contest - CW
- 22 Lancaster, Pa. HAMFEST - The first of the season here in the local area. Guernsey Pavillion, Rt. 30 East, Lancaster, Pa. Info: SERCOM, P.O. Box 6082, Rohrerstown, Pa. 17603
- 22 Washington's Birthday
- 29 There ain't none this year - wait a couple.....

SPECIAL NOTE: The club (Mt. Airy VHF) will be 25 years old in April. Your thoughts and ideas for special events or celebrations will be especially welcome. Feed your thoughts either to me or Harry, W3CL.

* * *

Note: Rumor has it that the W3HQT household has a new addition - a TV set. What is this world coming to? Is nothing sacred?

VISITORS JANUARY 22, 1981 MEETING

W3AJS, C.E. Keener Oreland, Pa.
WB3EFO, Ed Lee Huntingdon Valley, Pa.

VOTED TO RETIRED STATUS

WA3OVH, Peter H. Shavney, Jr.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

K3ZPN, Lloyd R. Shoenig
1310 Coachman East
Lindenwald, N.J. 08021
609-627-8145

CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER

K3LOM, Harry Brandt - 215-643-4213

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. HIGH POWER 2M LINEAR V-350: RF Power Labs is now producing a solid state high power amplifier for fixed station use. Power output is rated at 400 watts all mode; with an input of 750 watts. AC power supply is built into the 13"x17"x8" cabinet. Price \$1085. 21820, 87th S.E., Maltby Ind. Village, Woodinville, WA 98072
2. RINGO RANGER 2: Cushcraft has updated their line of Ringo antennas to include the improved model 2 for 2 meters 1 1/4 meters and 3/4 meters. The antenna uses new insulation material and features a 5/8 wave decoupling section for better feedline isolation. Kits can be purchased to convert older models of this antenna. The ARX2B covers 144-175 Mhz, ARX 220B covers 220-225 and ARX 450B. Price 220 version \$45. 48 Perimeter Rd., P.O. Box 4680, Manchester, N.H. 03108
3. CODE READER (MORE PAK CO.): The Morse Pak-A uses a 16 character fluorescent readout to copy code, when connected to the speaker terminals of a receiver. The receiver is then fine-tuned to lock the signal in. No other adjustments are required. Copy is possible over a speed range of 5-80 WPM. Price \$205. 604 Marcella Pl., NE, Albuquerque, NM, 87123

* * *

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Joe, W2EIF

The F2 activity on 6 meters departed as of early December in this area.

The VHF Bands returned to the normal low activity. One can usually find contacts on the low end of 2 meters using SSB. The 220 group meets each Tuesday evening at 8:30 with K1PXE and W2EIF always there and others as circumstances permit.

The Jan. Contest showed that the stations are around - they just don't find time to get on any other time.

It was gratifying to hear K1WHS (Maine) and W1EJ (NH) during the Contest on 220. Dave's signal from Maine was outstanding - his sideband actually QRM'd W3HFY at one point and that aint easy since Hal runs high power on 220.

Let us hope the coming Spring sees an increase in activity.

* * *

ANNOUNCEMENT

2nd Annual 1981

SPRING VHF QSO PARTY - Sponsored by the Ramapo Mountain ARC, from 1800Z March 28 until 0400Z March 30. Exchange signal report and ARRL section. One QSO point for 50-144 Mhz contacts, two points for 220-430 Mhz contacts, and three points for 1215 Mhz and up. Multiply by sum of ARRL sections per band. Rules are the same as for ARRL VHF QSO parties except FM operation not permitted below 450 Mhz. Use ARRL VHF QSO party, or similar forms; or S.A.S.E. to RMARC for entry forms. All who submit entries will receive a copy of results. Mail by April 27 to Ramapo Mountain ARC; P.O. Box 364; Oakland, N.J. 07436.

* * *

TID BITS

Congratulations to Bill and Sarah Olson (W3HQT) on their recent marriage. Our best wishes folks.

Richard Chalk, VE7BUT has moved to Toronto, Canada (VE3land) Good luck OM.

Horace Deacon, W3AJF at the "Crying Towel" session disclosed that he has never missed a VHF SS Contest - 32 of them so far. FB Deac. In a later conversation with Ernie Kenas, W3KKN put him in the same category - Both go back to the Old York Road Radio Club.

Talking about VHF SS - Bill Olson, W3HQT, won the "Crying Towel" prepared by contest chairman, Steve Simons, WA3WAS. A beautiful job Steve - who did the hemstitching?

It was great to see Lloyd Shoenig, K3ZPN come back to the fold.

(TID BITS CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

The January Meeting was moved up to the 22nd - we could hardly have a "crying towel" on the regularly scheduled date the 15th before the SS on the 17th and 18th - of course WB3IND, WB2UVB & XYL Janice showed up and were able to get into the meeting room and had their own meeting.

The editor rode to the meeting with Dick Boyle, K3IGX who had just picked up his new Diesel, VW Rabbit - very nice, Dick - did you clean off the pricing tag from the side window!

The contest was well under way when Marsha, WA3TEM discovered the 220 beam was not really pointing North when the control box said so - tch-tch.

The new ARRL Flag donated by George VanDyke, W3HK was displayed at the January meeting with a burst of cheers from the gang.

Sun watcher, Jack Power, W2AXU, reports the mean SS No. for December 1980 was 176.1. Smoothed S.S. Nos. for March and April 1980 are 162.0 and 159.0 respectively.

Congratulations to the Rochester Amateur Radio Association on the celebration of their 50th Anniversary.

Congrats to Ralph Alexander, WA3FOF, who was elected to the Presidency of the Penna. Amateur Radio Club (PennARC).

* * *

FROM HR REPORT, NUMBER 332
JANUARY 9, 1981

An amateur has been put off the air in yet another court action that could have far-reaching implications for the Amateur Radio community. In early December, K2AHL of Springfield, N.J., was ordered by Judge Kentz of the N.J. Superior Court in Elizabeth to cease operating his station, as a result of a suit filed in 1977 by neighbors over TVI and stereo interference.

The Problem had surfaced a year earlier, when, without previous warning, he received a letter from the neighbor's lawyer stating that he'd be sued if he didn't stay off the air. Since the suit began, technical experts for both sides have agreed that a proper antenna plus filters would solve the TVI, and a properly designed stereo system would eliminate the problem in that area. Although K2AHL offered them a new stereo, they refused to make any changes. The judge apparently agreed they shouldn't have to, and even told K2AHL's lawyer he would have the FCC suspend K2AHL's license!

The suit has cost W2AHL and his family \$7,000 thus far, and an appeal is estimated at another \$10,000. Nonetheless, he's willing to continue the fight if there are indications that the Amateur community is behind him.

* * *

JOTTINGS BY LEE

If gas goes up to two bucks a gallon, we ought to be allowed to read the vintage and small the cork...

My idea of a "10" is a "4" with a six-pack....

Did you ever notice that frozen lemonade contains artificial lemon flavor while Tidy-Bowl and Pledge advertise REAL Lemon juice...

Never purchase anything with a handle on it...it means work....

It's hard to get up in the morning when you realize that coffee is worth more per pound than you are...

We're living in a time when STICK'EM and FILL'ER UP have just about the same effect on your wallet.....

Thanks to XL...

* * *

WANTED:

Solid state transverters for 28 to 50, 28 to 144, and 28 to 432 Mhz like "Microwave Modules", Hamtronics, etc.

CONTACT: WA2PFC, Ed Loveland, 55 Elberne Ave., Woodbury, NJ 08096

Phone: 609-848-6145 after 7PM or call on 147.18 and 224.66 Rptrs.

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: TS-520 W/manual - mint, in original box \$475. WRL Duobander 84 SSB xcvr, AC/DC pwr sply, Shure Mobile mic., manual \$250. Hallicrafters HA-1 electronic Keyer w/manual, vy good cond. \$35. Hustler mast, Heavy duty spring, resonators 80, 75, 40, 20 mtrs \$50. Will ship UPS insured anywhere U.S.A.

CONTACT: Howard Weinstein, K3HW/6
5769 E1 Cajon Blvd., Apt. 18
San Diego, CA 92115
Phone: 714-466-8702

FOR SALE: Drake AA-10-2 mtr FM amp., used \$25 (A-1 cond. perfect for handie-talkies, etc.) Includes manual.

CONTACT: Joe, W3TEC
Phone: 215-535-2358 (or in Callbook)

FOR SALE: Dentron Mt 2000A antenna tuner. Brand new, never used. Will ship UPS \$170

CONTACT: W2IPF, Fred Hausler
Phone: 609-884-2079 (or in Callbook)

FOR SALE: Heath 5MHZ Oscilloscope Model 10-4560 \$125 w/manual and leads. TI5040 Calculator w/tape-hot wire print with display and memory w/tapes, \$30. New 2 channel walkie-talkies w/xtls for CH. 14. Neat and small with belt hook \$10. Radio Shack Songbird kits \$6. 31" Mike boom adapter w/adjust. counter weight \$8.00 Portable stereo phonographs from \$10. Home stereo phonos from \$30. Monkey see right-wrong calculators w/ battery \$6.00. Remote control things, auto antennas, tv games. Pack-Rat Club Property - BDC Rex rotary 4 mimeograph machine in good operating condition - manual operate or motordrive. Supplies-\$15.

CONTACT: Doc, K3GAS
Phone: 215-635-1078 Call for Appointment

FOR SALE: 1) KLM 8el. 6m ant(18' long) w/KLM 1-1 Balun \$125. *Currently in use. 2) Janel inline 6m preamp-QSA-5 \$19. (New cost \$41) BNC Connectors. 3) Janel in-line 2m preamp(As above) \$19. 4) HF Linear(homebrew) 2KW. 4-572B's in GG; tuned input; 80M-10M; 75-100 watts drive for 2KW input; similar to Dentron Clipperton design. In 10"x19" rack panel. Fully metered. \$195. Matching pwr sply in 9"x19" rack mount. 2000 to 3000 VDC at 1 amp. oil caps, full wave diode bridge; ac variac controlled (variac included) \$200. Pkg. price: both amp and supply \$350. firm. 5) 2KW+++ HF amp. 4-1000A in GG. New tube. Tuned input; vac.var. plate cap w/turns ctr dial; vernier loading ctl; fully metered; B&W 85l plate coil (silver plate); 80 to 100 watts drive in for 2KW +PEP: 14"x19" rack mount or stand alone; 80M to 10M; input ok for SS xcvs. \$450. (Exc. cond) Note: Side benefit-also heats shack. Matching pwr sply in 10 1/2"x19" rack mount; 2500 to 6000 VDC; 220Vac, variac controlled; oil filled caps; 6000 VDC at 1 amp; separately metered \$350. Buy amp + sply for \$700. will not sell supply alone 6) Variac-220Vac at 7 1/2 to 8 amp. \$35. 7) Plate Xfrmr: RCA 110 Vac; Sec.*3600/3000/2400 volts at 1 amp. \$25.00 8) Franklin Wood Stove, exc. cond. \$200 (Doesn't xmit!) 9) Dual 1229Q Auto record changer + stanton 780-4DQ cartridge (2/4 channel). Exc. cond. \$195.

CONTACT: WB3CDE, Don
Phone: 215-847-5065

* * *

SOME HINTS ON THE USE OF NICADS

Constant voltage charging should not be used in charging Nicads. A resistor must always be used between the source and the batteries.

Constant current charging is recommended for charging Nicads. The current should not exceed 0.1C without special circuitry. (0.1C is the 10 hour charge rate). If a battery pack is rated at 500ma-hrs, the 0.1C charge rate is 50ma.

Because of the charge acceptance inefficiencies in Nicads, it is necessary to replace 13% of the ampere-hours capacity. This means you must charge for 13 hours at the 10 hour rate to obtain full charge.

High rate charging can be used 15 min. to 1 1/2 hrs. if extremely close temperature and voltage sensing are employed. The ICOM charger uses this method. However, battery capacity is derated.

"Memory" in Nicads is a reality. Charge and partial discharge, and the first use after overcharge will cause memory. Reduction in capacity can be severe. Both conditions are reversible by deep discharge and recharge.

Overcharge at a 0.1C rate will cause no harm to Nicads. A 500ma-hr pack can be charged at 50ma indefinitely.

de W3ZC Editor-RF Hill ARC "MHZ Times"

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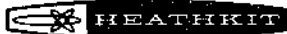
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