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CLUB CALL: W3CCX

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CHEESE BITS



MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA ARNS
 50.125, 144.150, 220.125, 432.110, 1296.110 Mhz, W3CCX - 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 19866

VOLUME XXVI

JUNE 1984

NUMBER 6

THE EDITOR SEZ

When the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club was founded in 1956, I became one of its charter members, and for the past 12 years have served as the editor of this paper - it has been a wonderful experience. This is the first time I have communicated directly with you.

I have watched the club grow in technical skill in the use of the VHF/UHF frequency spectrum, and observed it obtain world wide recognition in our operational expertise.

From the beginning we became an affiliate of the ARRL, and have looked upon that organization as the only viable representative of the amateurs in our country and perhaps in the world. I believe that without the ARRL our government and the public would have long ago restricted the amateurs' use of the communication spectrum.

Years ago we established our May meeting as "ARRL NITE" and invited ARRL Headquarters participation; this going back to the days of Ed Tilton, W1HDQ. The Atlantic Division Director always joined us as well. This year we looked forward to being presented with the "CAVEL" that evening - number 24 that is. Our president received the following letter from our friend David Sumner, K1ZZ:-

Dear Bill:

I'm sorry we were unable to provide a member of the staff to assist Hugh Turnbull in representing the League at your traditional ARRL night this year. I recall fondly my own visit a few years ago, when I brought RSGB General Manager David Evans, G3OUF, along on our way to Dayton. As you know, I have considerable interest in VHF/UHF weak-signal work myself, but was simply not able to get away to join you. When Hugh renewed the request that we try to find someone from the staff to go down, we tried until the very last minute. I hope we'll be able to do better next year. 73

sincerely,

David Sumner, K1ZZ
 General Manager

Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, our director and a member of the ARRL executive board, addressed the club that evening and covered many areas of concern to all amateurs; the VEC program, volunteer monitoring, and ARRL management policies were among the major topics. He also presented one of our respected old-timers, W3AJF, Horace Deacon with an ARRL 50 year plaque. Contest plaques were also presented to our members by our president Bill Smith, NF2L.

(Continued on Page 7)

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SWAP SHOP ITEMS - NO CHARGE

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

EDITOR:

W3CL, HARRY B. STEIN
2087 Parkdale Avenue
Glenside, Pa. 19038
215-887-5052

PUBLISHER/SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER:

K3GAS, DOC CUTLER
7815 New Second Street
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215-635-1078

PRINTER:

WB2VLA, DAVID POWER
609-882-1040

TYPIST:

WA3TEM, MARSHA LISSAUER

TRUSTEE OF CLUB CALL - W3CCX

WA3AXV, RONALD WHITSEL
215-355-5730

AWARDS CHAIRMAN:

W2EIF, JOSEPH KILGORE
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
8:45 PM - 220.125 MHZ	WA2DPU-K3GYS
9:00 PM - 432.110 MHZ	K3IUV-WA2DPU
9:30 PM - 1296.1 MHZ	W3CXU

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WA3YUE, BRUCE LOSS (2 yrs)
W3IIT, HARRY BROWN (1 yr)
WB2RVX, MIKE GALLO (1 yr)



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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
Syllabus By Lee, K3MXM

JUNE

- 1 For all you Star Gazers - Marilyn Monroe was born this date in 1928
- 2 Long Island Computer Fair - Melville, N.Y.
- 2-3 N.J. Micro and Computer Flea Market - Meadowlands Hilton Hotel, Secaucus, N.J.
- 3 Wilkes-Barre Hamfest - 109th Armory - Kingston, Pa. (Cross river from W.B.)
- 3 DCARA Hamfest and Auction - Drexel Hill Middle School - State Rds. and Penn Sts. Drexel Hill, Pa. Talk-In 147.36 and .52
- 3 Manassas Hamfest - Manassas, Virginia
- 3 For our Southern Readers - Happy Birthday Jeff Davis
- 6 D Day - 1944 - Does it seem like it was 40 years ago....
- 9-10 June VHF QSO Party - (See Note)
- 10 Jersey Short Ham and Computer Fest - Jewish Community Center - 100 Grant Ave., Deal, N.J. (Exit 105 Garden State Parkway) Talk-In 147.045
- 14 FLAG DAY - Display our Flag proudly today.
- 14 Board of Directors Meeting - QTH - W3CL, Harry B. Stein, 2087 Parkdale Avenue, Glenside, Pa. If lost, 887-5052. Directors and interested parties always welcome.
- 15-16-17 Summer SMIRK Party (Six meter International Radio Klub)
- 17 Central Maryland Hamfest - Frederick Fair Grounds - Frederick, Md.
- 17 Fathers Day (Our Day in the Sun)
- 19 Statue of Liberty Dedicated - 1885
- 21 General Club Meeting - Southampton Free Library, 8 P.M. Topic #1 - Election of Officers for 1984-85 Year; Topic #2 - Photos, Reports and Survey of W. Va. Site For UHF Contest in August, W3HQT et al; Topic #3 - Amateur Sattelite Communications now and the future-slides, etc. WA3DSP - Doug Crompton. Your vote definately counts - Come on out and use it. It does count!! The Mario Raffle, Frankie's Silent Auction - Refreshments. Bring a friend along. It will be a most interesting evening and meeting.
- 23-24 FIELD DAY - Full details May QST Page 101
- 24 First Sighting of "Flying Saucers" 1947
- 26 The Toothbrush invented in China 1498.

NOTE: June 9 & 10, 1984 VHF QSO PARTY

Steve Simons, KF6AJ now residing in Danbury, Connecticut invites Pack-Rats to come and help assemble the station and operate the contest from W1QK on Mohawk Mountain (North of Danbury and West of Hartford).

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. HUSTLER ANTENNAS: Hustler has some new antennas in their line of interest to the VHF population. The G6-440 is a UHF fixed station vertical with 6 DB gain and a bandwidth of 18 MHz. Wind survival is rated at 120 MPH and length is 88 inches. The 6-MB#3 is a three element 6 meter beam with a gain of 6 DB and a weight of 7 lbs. Bandwidth on the beam is 2 MHz for under 2:1 SWR. Price \$100 for the G6-440 \$60 for the 6-MB3.
2. A R A PRE-AMPS: Advanced Receiver Research now has a line of GaAsFET in line RF switched pre-amps for 50-144-220 and 432 Mhz. The 6 and 2 meter models SP50VDG and SP144VDG are listed as .55 Db noise figures and 24 Db gain. The 220 and 432 models SP220VDG and SP432VDG are also rated at .55Db noise figure and 20 Db gain on 220 with 16 Db gain on the 432 unit. These in line amps are rated at 25 watts RF and so could be used anywhere in the line and automatically switch the amp out of the circuit during transmit. For higher power operation the preamp would have to be mounted between the transceiver and the high power amp. Price - All models \$110.
3. MIRAGE 2 AND 220 POWER AMPS: Mirage has some new amps for use with HTs. The high power unit, the B215, covers all mode operation on 2 meters and features 150 watts out with 2 watts in. The smaller units are only 2 x 3 1/2 x 7 inches and look just like the big amps, with 3 switches and 2 led indicators on the front panels. The 2 meter B23A boosts 2 watts to 30 watts out. The 220 unit G22A takes 2 watts in and puts out 20 watts. All three amps have built in preamps that can be switched out of the circuit from the front panel. The small amps also operate all modes.

* * *

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Joe, W2EIF

The 50 MHz band has started to open up on schedule. There have been some openings with one providing contacts into the Northwest including Montana and VE's. The 2 meter band seems to have dropped off in activity, however, the nets seem to be holding up as to participation.

The 220 Spring Sprint went well, however, the 432 Sprint was poor, possibly because of bad conditions. 1296 was pretty good according to W3HQT who worked 21 stations with 7 grids.

Have not heard anymore about activity from Spruce Knob W. Va. for the month of May. The unusually cold Spring has not produced any good tropo conditions. Lets hope it improves by the June QSO Party.

Now that the club is not in the QSO Party, we as individual operators should get on and represent the Club as to activity.

P.S. W2AXU reports the 6 meter band was open May 19 & 20 to LU - He worked LU8YYO on the 20th. There were some good contacts made during the 50 MHz Spring Sprint.

* * *

THE FIRST BUG

Received From KS2T 5/16/84

It was the summer of 1945. The US Navy was rushing to finish Mark II, the first American large-scale digital computer. "It was a hot summer with no air conditioning, so all the window were open," wrote Navy Captain Grace Hopper in the Annals of the History of Computing. "Mark I stopped, and we were trying to get her going. We finally found the relay that had failed. Inside the relay - and these were large relays - was a moth that had been beaten to death by the relay. We got a pair of tweezers. Very carefully we took the moth out of the relay, put it in the logbook, and put scotch tape over it. Now, Commander Howard Aiken had a habit of coming into the room and saying, 'Are you making any numbers?' From then on if we weren't making any numbers, we told him that we were debugging the computer. To the best of my knowledge that's where it started." This logbook page with the first computer bug still taped to it, is at the Naval Museum at the Naval Surface Weapons Center in Dahlgren, Va.

Tnx to KS2T

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: HAL DKB - 2010 Keyboard Rtty/CW - \$125. NYE MBII matching network \$125.

CONTACT: Jay Miller, KS2T
Phone: 201-244-7623

FOR SALE: Icom 551 6 mtr. rig 10 watts - AM, CW, & FM w/built-in pwr sply - \$350

CONTACT: Harry Schools, KA3B
Phone: 215-468-1866

FOR SALE: AEA Computer Patch CP-1 for Commodore 64 w/MBATEXT, Morse, Baudot & ASC II (See April QST pg. 45 for full description) \$185.

CONTACT: Joe Rushton, W3YXF
Phone: 215-855-7799

FOR SALE: Heath HX-30 6 mtr SSB xmitter. Great for driving transverters - excellent condx. \$35.

CONTACT: Jack Power, W2AXU
Phone: 609-882-8811

FOR SALE: Collins 75S3 revr - filters - 250 Hz for CW, 2.1 KHZ for SSB & 4.5 KHZ for AM. Variable BFO have xtals for additional frequencies, noise blanker & speaker. Ideal for tunable I.F. excellent condx. \$215

CONTACT: Jack Power, W2AXU
Phone: 609-882-8811

* * *

A TECH NOTE BY JAY MILLER, KS2T

Here's some of the info on the MIRAGE A1015 6 meter amplifier. FREQUENCY RANGE 50-52 MHz. POWER INPUT 1 to 15 watts (20 watts max.) POWER OUTPUT 150 watts or more for 10 watts input. RECEIVE PREAMP 10db gain with 1.5 +/- .5 db noise figure. DC POWER 13.6 VDC at 18-22 amps nominal.

Here's what I must rewire since the YAESU FT-726R is at "ground" during transmit, I believe ICOM gear goes to + voltage during transmit so a IC-551 could be connected right out of the box. I wish they had an external switch to go from ground to + volts during transmit, but that would be too simple. Any different rig could be used then without opening up the amp to change that jumper wire, maybe I'll put a switch in after the warranty is over. Here's word for word from the manuel; AMPLIFIER KEYING: CAUTION the amplifier must be keyed from the driving transmitter - it does not have automatic RF keying. Do not use the amplifier until the keying circuit has been hooked up. The A1015 can be keyed up applying a "ground" or a +5 to +15 DC voltage to the RCA phono jack on the back panel during transmit.

The A1015 is factory set to accept a "plus (+) voltage" for keying. This can be changed to a "Ground" for keying by:

Now it goes on to explain a simple 2 step procedure, just take off the bottom cover and move a jumper wire from a red to a white wire, its very simple but annoying. I see the warranty is 5 years so maybe I'll put a switch in right away in case I sell the YAESU someday and go to another brand that uses + volts for keying.

This A1015 used two MRF492 for the power transistors. It seems to me that one could easily get 175 watts (and more) out of it without damage even over a long period of use. I should have it on the air by the time you read this.

* * *

TECH NOTE BY RICH PRIM, WA3IWT

For use in the GaAsFET 432Mhz preamps INDIANA GENERAL 0.25 inch Q1 Ferrite Torroids are equal to AMIDON FT23-61.

* * *

VOTED TO MEMBERSHIP

WB3IGR - George M. Fazio - XYL Kathy (WB3LTH)
2169 Schaefer Road
Abington, Pa. 19001
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TID BITS

Sunwatcher, Jack Power, W2AXU, reports the monthly No. for April 1984 = 68.6 - Smoothed No. for October 1983 = 68.1.

Thanks to Amelia Bowman (XYL - K3OBY - recent silent key) for the card to the Pack-Rats. Call on us anytime please, for any assistance.

Condolences to Rick Como, K1LOG on the loss of his XYL Ellen.

K3IPM, Stan Smith sent a note and sez hello to the gang from Boca Raton, Florida.

Congratulations to Horace Deacon, W3AJF on his 50 year membership in the ARRL. He received a plaque from Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, The Atlantic Division Director, at our ARRL nite meeting.

Jay Miller, KS2T reports the 6 meter beacon is back on 50.070 MHz located in Toms River, N.

* * *

VISITORS MAY 17, 1984 MEETING

W3ABC - Hugh - College Park, Md.

KA2NYF - Janet - Deptford, N.J.

WB8ZAR - Dave - Cinnaminson, N.J.

WB3IGR - George - Abington, Pa.

W3AJS - Ed - Oreland, Pa.

KA3B - Harry - Phila., Pa.

KB3XG - John - Newtown, Pa.

* * *

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS - 1984-1985

The Nominating Committee submitted the following:

PRESIDENT - WB2VLA - David Power

V. PRESIDENT - WB2RVX - Michael Gullo

COR. SECRETARY - AK30 - Frank Kerns

REC. SECRETARY - W3IIT - Harry Brown

TREASURER - K3GAS - Doc Cutler

DIRECTORS - 2 YEAR TERM -

WA3AAJ - James Ward

WB3IND - George McMahon

Nominations remain open until the regular meeting on June 21, 1984 when nominations may be made from the floor. Make sure you obtain permission from the candidate you wish to nominate.

* * *

FROM NORTHEAST VHF NEWS

NEW 10 METER VHF-UHF NET STARTING: N2BMN, Ralph, of Little Ferry, NJ has suggested forming a net on 40 meters for coordinating VHF-UHF operators with skeds on tropo, meteor scatter, and other forms of propagation and also to sked for working new grids, DXpeditions, SWOT memters, etc. The frequency of 7.284 MHz has been suggested, beginning on Sundays at 1400Z. Changes in time and frequency may be made at a later date. The net control stations will be N2BMN and KA2BTD. The net name will be the "East Coast VHF-UHF Coordination Net." Stations are asked to provide their call, grid square, and SWOT number (if any) when checking in to the net. (TNX SWOT Bulletin)

TWO METER BEACON NEWS: With the coming of spring and more favorable propagation, the news of VHF beacon activity is of interest. The Lincoln Communications Society of Lincoln, Nebraska, has constructed a beacon transmitter to provide a signal for propagation studies and frequency reference. The beacon currently operates A1 on 144.055 MHz with an output power of 10 watts to an omni-directional antenna. The beacon location is in the northeast corner of grid square EN10. The ID call sign is WB0QIY/B. Reception reports could be sent to the Lincoln Communications Society, Attn: Secretary KONG, 1801 S. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506.

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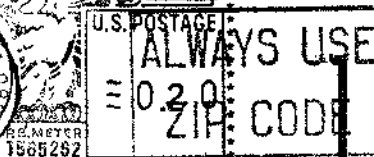
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