

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

NOVEMBER, 1981

NUMBER 11

THE PREZ SEZ

They say that time flies when you're having fun and so has the last 10 years because we just finished the latest and most successful Hamarama - the 10th and the 5th Mid-Atlantic VHF Conference. We've come a long way since the firehouse in Jamison and it's been the usual ackrat way with everyone pitching in. I'm glad there's no "Club Competition" category for hamfests because there would be some in the club that would want to challenge Dayton. It would be premature to say we couldn't beat them too if we really set it as a goal. Anyway, thanks to Ron, WA3AXV for running Hamarama '81 and Dave, W3ZD for running the VHF Conference. They had a lot of help but if I listed them all here, it would amount to a large percentage of the membership list (and several XYL's too). Thanks everybody! It was fun because of the challenge and hard work. If you're into numbers, the attendance was 2300+ at the hamfest and 220+ at the VHF conference. As far as quality goes, I'd be surprised if there were many unhappy buyers or sellers at the hamfest and the conference had knowledgeable speakers and an eager audience that had a good exchange of ideas and techniques. Ray Clark, K5ZMS was the guest speaker at the conference banquet and he talked about FCC Docket 78-393. If you're not aware of this docket, see the September 1981 QST and read about the FCC's Inquiry on Radio Frequency Interference to Electronic Equipment. You'll see that the FCC looks into many "solutions" to the problem - solutions that you might think are ridiculous. It's not too late to write the FCC with your views and while you're at it - send a copy to your Senator and Representative and to the ARRL too.

October's meeting had an interesting display and discussion of the latest in amateur equipment by Horace, W3AJF - the latest that is for 1922. One of these days I'd like to see the equipment really operating tho - with arcs and ozone - a real 2 way spark QSO. There must be some way to do this legally without causing interference to someone else.

Looking for something interesting to do? The club's board of director's meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month is the place to go and sign up for work. No experience is necessary and the rewards are great - the knowledge that you've served your fellow club members and an occasional thanks. Everyone including various activity chairmen and directors of the board are welcome. See the Calendar of Coming Events on Page 3 to find out when and where. See you there?

See you at the Nov. meeting. Jim Holt, N3AHI, our (3rd call area) rep. on the VHF/UHF Contesting Ad-Hoc Committee will conduct a forum. Bring your buddies, views and open mind and see what everyone else's views are too.

73, Harry, W3IIT

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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We operate on an exchange basis with other publications. Anything that is printed in CHEESE BITS may be reprinted, unless otherwise stated, provided that proper credit is given.

SWAP SHOP ITEMS - NO CHARGE

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

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CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3CL, HARRY B. STEIN

<u>MONDAY NIGHT NETS</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>
7:30 PM - 50.125 MHZ	W3CL-W3HQ7
8:00 PM - 144.150 MHZ	W2EIF
8:30 PM - 222.98/224.58	K3GAS
9:00 PM - 432.1 MHZ	K3IUV-WA2DPU
9:30 PM - 1296.025 MHZ	W3CXU

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REC. SECY: K3IGX, DICK BOYLE
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DIRECTORS:

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WA3NUF, PHIL MIQUELEZ (2yrs)
WA2DPU, BILL SMITH (1yr)
K3NHX, JOE GARDOCKI (1yr)

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
Syllabus By Lee, K3MXM

NOVEMBER

- 3 ELECTION DAY - Make sure your voice is heard at the BALLOT BOX and not where it is uncounted.
- 4-5 YL Anniversary Party - Phone - give the gals a contact on the lowbands. NOTE: This is Mid-week - Wednesday and Thursday.
- 7-8 ARRL Sweepstakes - CW - See October QST, Page 80
- 8 RF HILL ARC HAMFEST - The Armory- Sellersville, Pa. Info: Chet Pierson, K3TV, Box 336, RFD #1, Green Lane, Pa. 18054.
- 10 For you Leathernecks - U.S. Marine Corps organized 1775
- 11 VETERAN'S DAY
- 12-13-14 Computer Show, Sheraton Hotel, Phila. Pa. Sponsored by PACS. 3 days of seminars, workshops, speakers on hand, displays, many new items and manufacturers on display.
- 12 Board of Directors Meeting - QTH - K3MXM, Lee A. Cohen, 8242 Brookside Road, Elkins Park, Pa. Interested parties always welcome.
- 19 General Club Meeting - Southampton Free Library 8:00 P.M. Street Road, Southampton, Pa. PROGRAM: N3AHI, Jim Holt a Pack-Rat member of the ARRL AD HOC Committee for VHF/UHF Contesting will hold a forum with the members. WA2DPU, Bill Smith, January VHF SS Chairman urges your attendance at this meeting. Contest packets will be distributed.
The Mario Raffle, Frankie's Silent Auction, Refreshments.
- Lincoln's Gettysburg Address 1863
- 22 John F. Kennedy assassinated in Dallas, Texas, okay - what was the year?
- 21-22 ARRL Sweepstakes - Phone - See October QST - Page 80
- 26 THANKSGIVING DAY
- 28-29 CQ Worldwide DX Contest - CW
- 30 First regular evening radio broadcast. Westinghouse - later KDKA - Pittsburgh, 1920

* * *

VATICAN RADIO AWARD

By: Bill Welsh

(W6DDB)

(LERC BULLETIN)

Vatican Radio is celebrating its 50th anniversary by issuing a special award to those who contact (or hear) at least 2 of the 3 active Vatican stations between 1 October 1981 and 1 February 1982. These stations are HV1CN, HV2VO, and HV3SJ.

Vatican stations expect to operate code, radioteletype, and voice (AM, FM, and SSB). See 80 thru 2 meter bands will be used. Contacts can be cross-band, cross-mode, repeater/Oscar, mixed, or regular. Applicant must send photocopy of each QSL confirming 2-way contact (or SWL) before 31 Dec. 1983 to HV1CN, Vatican Radio, Vatican City, Europe. This announcement indicates the Vatican stations will be on the air, giving many amateurs a chance to work another country.

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. HANDI-CON V-VHF CONVERTER: M-Squared Engineering Co. is now producing a small self contained VHF HI converter for use with synthesized HTs that cover the 2M band. The HC-V allows reception of signals in the 154-158 Mhz and 159-163 Mhz bands, covering both public service and marine frequencies. Standard BNC fittings are used with a male fitting provided for connection to the HI antenna terminal. Internal protection is provided in case the transmitter is switched on while the converter is in operation. In the off position, the HT can be used in the normal manner, without having to disconnect the HC-V. Price \$45. 1446 Lansing Ave., San Jose, CA 95118
2. SCANNER FILTER: Grove Enterprises, Inc. has an interesting scanner filter covering 80-180 Mhz. It is installed between the antenna and the receiver. Signals that are interfering can then be tuned out with this notch circuit. This might come in handy when operating on 2 meters and receiving interference from paging or local police, fire or airport operations. Price \$40. Brasstown, N.C. 28902
3. VHF/UHF ACTIVE ANTENNA: Grove also has an active indoor antenna system, the Scamp ANT-4 which covers from 30-512 Mhz. The ANT-4 is rated at 18 Db signal over a 1/4 wave whip built into most scanners. When switched off the Scamp works like a normal 19" whip antenna. Operation is simplified by taking 12 VDC at 10 Ma from the receiver with which it will be used. Price \$50.

* * *

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Joe, W2EIF

The bands 50 Mhz and up have been very quiet since the September QSO Party. The six meter band has shown that it is still open occasionally to the South Atlantic. W2AXU reports that he has heard the FY7THF beacon quite strong in the AM, these early October days and has worked FY7AG. FY7THE is at 50.035 and TY7AC is about 50.105.

Two meters continues to show nightly activity particularly around 144.2.

KIPXE and myself are still on the schedule Tuesday nites, 144.150 at 8 P.M., 1296 shortly thereafter, with liason at 144.150. Then we go to 220.1 with contacts from Conn. to VA.

WA3G00 reports that using a double cavity filter on the low end of 220 got rid of the crud from Channel 12. He is only 10 miles from Channel 12 towers. Maybe the use of filters would also help a lot of 220 people in Channel 13 area also!

W2AXU reports a visual as well as radio aurora, with signals on six and 2 on October 13 around midnite - no doubt the late hour accounted for the few signals heard.

* * *

FROM RF CARRIER

A CURE FOR FROZEN BEAMS

You have probably all heard the comment on the air, "Sorry but I can't turn my beam in your direction, it's frozen." If you plan on doing any work on your beam this fall consider the above addition. It's cheap, simple and guaranteed to prevent freeze up. To make, get a common funnel (6" size will do fine), cut off the end and slit the small end in four places. Bend tabs back so the resulting hole is approximately equal to the mast diameter. If your antenna is already up, you will have to cut one slit completely thru. Slide it down over the mast or open it up and snap it around the mast. Adjust so that the bearing area is up under the lip. Tape well with electrical tape or duct tape. If you had to completely cut it open, the cut edges must be taped. Duct tape is probably best for this. Presto you are done. The funnel prevents lubricants from being washed out, reduces rusting in the bearing area and most important keeps moisture out that can freeze.

Harry McConaghy, Former Engineer Helped Develop Navy Equipment: Harry A. McConaghy, 71, a retired civilian engineer with the Navy Department who was active in amateur radio organizations, died Saturday at his home in Bethesda after a heart attack.

He came to this area in 1950 and worked for the Navy's Weapons Development Bureau, where he helped design Navy electronic equipment, before retiring in 1970.

Mr. McConaghy was a member of the board of the American Radio Relay League from 1970 to 1979, and was a member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association. He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Washington.

He was a native of Camden, N.J. and a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania where he earned a degree in electronics engineering. He was a radio broadcast station engineer in Pa. in the 1920's and 1930's.

He served as a Navy aviator in the Pacific during World War II, and was a retired commander in the Naval Reserves. He joined the Navy Department as a civilian research engineer in Pa. after the war.

Survivors include his wife, Rae Easterday McConaghy, and a daughter, Linda Durbin, both of Bethesda, and two grandchildren.

(Connie-Mac will be sorely missed by the Pack-Rats)

* * *

MID-ATLANTIC VHF CONFERENCE

Just about anyone in this area attends hamfests makes certain to include the Pack-Rats Hamarama as a must visit. However, the hamfest is only half of Hamarama -- the other half being the Mid-Atlantic VHF Conference. This was the fifth annual Conference and the third attended by this writer. If you are at all interested in VHF and UHF operating you should plan to attend the sixth Conference next year.

This year's Conference covered just about all parts of a state-of-the-amateur-art VHF/UHF station. Low-noise preamps, power amplifiers, and antennas were discussed by amateurs involved in the spirit of paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of Rule 97.1. Home brew and R&D are alive and well on the VHF and UHF bands! Speaking of the rules, Ennis Coleman, Engineer-in-Charge of our Radio District was there to answer questions most of which were concerned with the Plain Language re-write and the RFI Further Notice of Inquiry. These were also the subjects of the after dinner remarks by Ray, K5ZMS.

See you at the 6th Conference next year! (FROM THE SPARC-GAP: Thanks Nate, N2ADD for this article)

* * *

TID BITS

Jack Power, W2AXU reports Sunspot number for September 1981 (R1) is 169.3 - Smoothed number for March 1981 (R2) is 142.9.

Congrats to W3KT, Jesse Bieberman was the only eligible nominee for Atlantic Division Director has been reelected for a two-year term beginning at noon January 1, 1982. Hugh A. Turnbull, W3ABC and Alan H. Komenski, AC2K are the nominees for Vice Director.

I am happy to report that Jim Ward, WA3AAJ has been appointed Commanding Officer of his Naval Reserve Unit.

Steve Simon, WA3WAS/6 writes that he is finally getting settled in Northern California. He and Gary, WA1YHO/6 are planning a mountain top group for the Jan. VHF SS. He hopes to get on 15 meters soon to check in on the Saturday morning net.

Paul, WA3HIT reported on the 220 repeater - he is home now recuperating.

Ron, WA3AXV "The King" is miserably relaxing with a case of MONO!

N6NB Wayne Overbeck attended the October meeting. Gave a number of interesting views on West Coast VHF Contest operation differing materially from the situation here in the East. is their mainstay. Wayne is a member of the recently appointed AD HOC Committee on VHF/UHF Contesting.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

October 5, 1981

W. Dale Clift
ARRL
225 Main Street
Newington, Ct. 06111

Dear Dale,

It has been some time since I have had any correspondence with you concerning my RFI legal action. In the recent appeal, to the Appellate Division, State Superior Court, State of New Jersey, the appeal was heard on September 14, 1981 at which time the case was presented to a panel of three (3) judges.

On September 25, 1981 a ruling was issued in favor of the township of Winslow, State of New Jersey. I have enclosed a copy of the ruling for your information.

As you can see, by the letter from my attorney, the next step would be the New Jersey Supreme Court, if they would agree to hear the case. I am not sure what recourse I would have if the Supreme Court of New Jersey refused to hear the case.

I will be in touch with my attorney to start the proceedings for the supreme court, however, I am not sure I will be able to continue the fight. The last thing I want to do is back away from this legal confrontation if funding can be secured for continuance of the matter.

If you will advise me of the League's position, on both financial help as well as direct legal assistance from Robert Booth, it will greatly help me make this decision. I have already contacted the Mt. Airy VHF Club to ascertain the members position concerning continuing the case. I will be soliciting opinions of other groups as well. Once my attorney has outlined a fee schedule to me, and a determination has been made as to support from the amateur population I will be in a better position to make a stand as to continuing on.

As I mentioned above I am instructing my attorney to file the certification with the Supreme Court so as not to lose the right to appeal after October 14, 1981. I feel that the case can be dropped later if sufficient funding can not be attained, but if I wait for an assessment of funding to start the proceedings then the 30 days period will expire.

To sum up my position on this matter I am willing to continue this fight until a victory is attained, providing adequate funding becomes available. Unfortunately, I do not have the financial resources to go the distance alone. With adequate support the case goes on; without, I stop here.

A quick answer is not expected, nor do I feel it is needed since we have some time once the certification is filed. I will advise you of any further developments as they happen.

Very truly yours,
Randy Bynum

* * *

HR REPORT NUMBER 351 OCTOBER 9, 1981
Received 10/13/81

Senator Goldwater's Pro-amateur radio bill was passed by the Senate September 25 by unanimous consent. This important legislation, S.929, would affect not only the Amateur Service but also CB and radio control licensees as well as the electronics manufacturing industry.

Establishment of RFI susceptibility standards for the TV and home entertainment electronics industry could well be the most significant result of this comprehensive bill, if it becomes law. It would vest in the FCC the authority to set such standards, as a means of reducing the escalating RFI problems. It would also increase the term of an Amateur license from five to 10 years, while a last-minute amendment by Senator Goldwater would also

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

FOR SALE: Swan 2500-(6 meter) pwr. sply, noise silencer, book, mike, excellent condition. \$250

CONTACT: George, WA3SPR
Phone: 215-924-8651

WANTED: 2 meter base station vertical antenna.

CONTACT: Dan Sutton, WA3BKR
Phone: 215-ES9-2882 (daytime)
215-WI7-2451 (nitetime)

FOR SALE: 50 ft. 5 section telescoping mast \$25.

CONTACT: Preston Weil, WA2TSZ
147 Oakcrest Avenue
Pitman, N.J. 08071
Phone: 609-589-8118

ATTENTION HAM PILOTS

FOR SALE: 25% ownership of a Piper 180 with 3 other hams. 2 mtr. aeronautical mobile at 3500 ft. is a real experience. Now you can fly anytime for as long as you wish.

CONTACT: Harry, W3GU - Daytime 215-657-3300
Rube, N3RT - 215-886-2141
Rus, W3MY - 215-675-0314
Dan, WA3BKR - 215 WI 7-2451

VISITORS OCTOBER 15, 1981 MEETING

N6NB, Wayne Overbeck, Garden Grove, CA.
WB2UVB/WA7UJW, Gene Bond, Moorestown, NJ.
WA2MGV, Gene Bond, Sr., Moorestown, NJ.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

WA2OMY - Benj. G. Hitchner, Jr. (Gary)
39 W. Mt. Kirk Avenue
Norristown, Pa. 19403
215-539-6409

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

WA3OVH/5 - Peter H. Shavney
13200 So. Breeze
San Antonio, TX 78260
1-512-497-3737

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Kodak signet 35 MM slide projector \$8. Speakers - from 50¢, 8 track players, phono turntables, perf. box kits - from \$1. Stereo component rack(new unassembled) \$25. 8 track tapes, cassettes, records. All new - each 50¢. TV games--remote control cars from \$5. Gonset 2 mtr. transceiver w/FM \$20. Auto antennas, digital clocks, electronic hand held games, radios, short-wave, novelty AM, micro-phones, Miller coils and forms, parts. Power wire wrapping tools(new). \$12.

CONTACT: Doc, K3GAS
Phone: 215-635-1078(by appointment after 1 PM)

FOR SALE: 35 ft. radio tower - 5 sections 7 ft. high. Base station 23 in. wide; top section 13 in. wide \$100.

CONTACT: Andy, Phone: 215-224-1940

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THE PACK RAT

From The Pack Rat and Other Poems by Jack Prelutsky -- MacMillan Publishing Co., Inc. N.Y. 1974

The Pack Rat's day is spent at play
collecting useless stuff
No matter what the Pack Rat's got,
he's never got enough.

Nails & tacks & wires & wax,
a knife, a fork, a feather,
large or tiny, dull or shiny,
tin or bone or leather.

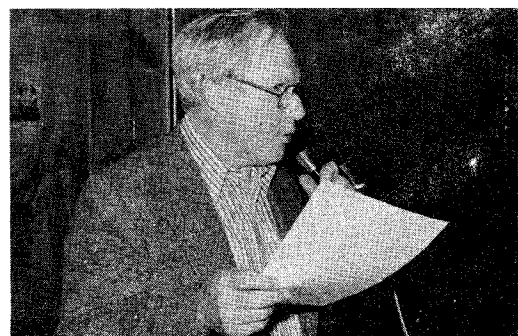
Sticks & socks & spoons & rocks
and nuts that squirrels lose,
rings & strings, peculiar things
a rat could never use.

The Pack Rat saves & stores in caves
strange treasures smooth & knobby.
It's not from greed nor out of need,
he does it as his hobby.

(Thanks to Rebekah, Harmonic de KILOG)

* * *

FRL BULLETIN NR 112 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT OCT. 7, 1981 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT:
Starting Oct. 23, 1981, U.S. amateurs will no longer be required to give the callsign of the station with which they are in contact unless international third party traffic is being handled. Furthermore, there will no longer be a requirement to identify your station at the end of the transmission or series of transmissions and at least once each ten minutes during the communication. AR



QST VHF EDITOR W3XO - BILL TYNUM



FCC ENGINEER-IN-CHARGE (PHILA), ENNIS COLEMAN



ATLANTIC DIVISION DIRECTOR W3KT, JESSE BIEBERMAN



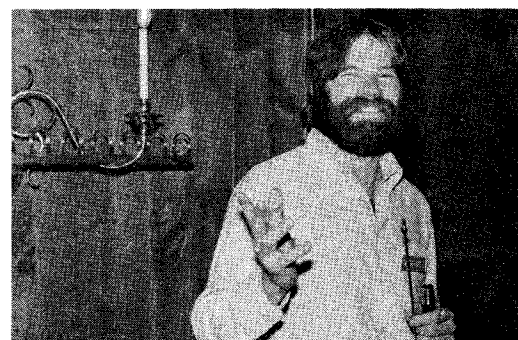
DOC CUTLER, K3GAS, REGISTRATION



DAVE ZIMMERMAN, W3ZD, CHAIRMAN



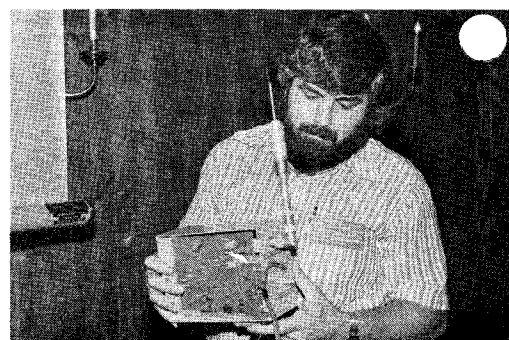
HARRY STEIN, W3CL, CO-CHAIRMAN



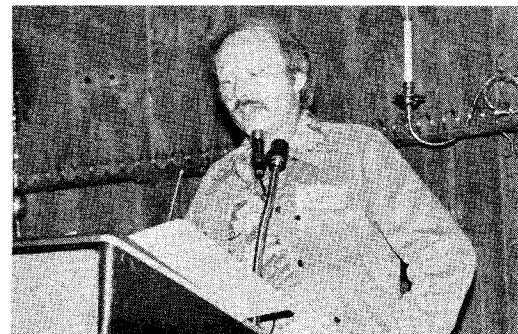
W3HQT, BILL OLSON



W3CXU, JOHN ALLEN



WA3JUF, DAVE MASCARO



WA3AXV, RON WHITSEL



K2RIW, DICK KNADLE



K2UYH, ALAN KATZ

THE CONFERENCE

permit the FCC to discontinue the licensing of CB and radio control operators entirely, a deregulatory measure that has received some support from both FCC staff and Commissioners recently. In addition, it would specifically exempt Amateur transmissions from the secrecy provisions (Section 605) of the Communications Act. Though it was long assumed that Amateurs were not included in Section 605 coverage, recent legal decisions have generally applied its limitations to Amateur operations.

The Commission could enlist volunteer assistants from both the Amateur Radio and CB communities, under still another provision of S.929. These volunteers would be permitted to work directly with FCC engineers in monitoring both Amateur and CB frequencies for unlicensed or improper operations. Amateur Radio licensees would also be permitted to serve as volunteer examiners for "entry level" Amateur license applicants, a long-standing practice that has recently been termed "illegal" under present laws by the FCC legal staff.

One key provision of S.929, as introduced by Senator Goldwater, was not included in the bill the Senate passed. This was the provision that would have given the Commission the power to restrict the purchase of transmitting equipment to those having the appropriate license to use it. Though generally supported by the Amateur community, this provision contradicts the deregulatory philosophy of the present administration.

The next step for S.929 is in the House of Representatives, where it could be tied to appropriate legislation already pending there. More likely, it will be considered by itself, possibly replacing existing legislation such as Rep. Dannemeyer's HR 2203. It will go to the House Committee on Communications, chaired by Rep. Timothy Wirth, and it's possible that some action could be taken on it by early next year.

Support of S.929 by amateurs, expressed to their Representatives, should help to keep the bill moving toward passage.

* * *

TID BITS CONTINUED

Ray Clark, K5ZMS (Smirk #1) gave a dynamic speech at the VHF Conference dinner on October 3, 1981. He was particularly concerned with the adverse overtones of FCC General Docket 78-369, Notice of Inquiry on Radio Frequency (RF) Interference to Electronic Equipment. This docket could limit your right to operate a licensed amateur station in the future.

We heard from our man in Bermuda, Joe, W3YXF that is.

Also, our man in Reading made it back in time for the October meeting.

W3AJF, Horace Deacon put on a very FB old timers show at the October meeting. He brought along memorabilia from the spark days including some excellently restored items loaned for the occasion by Phil Catona, W2JAV. W3CL also had a table of old receivers and a DeForest audiotron receiving tube.

The club printing press was moved from Phila. to Trenton on Oct. 10, 1981 with the following crew: W3HQT, WA3NUF, WA3JUF, K3ACR, WA3YUE, WB2VLA, W2AXU and ye editor. The new printer is Dave Power, WB2VLA. Many thanks to WA3FOF for his dedication these past number of years doing an FB print job for the club.

For you antique car buffs; Classic car show case at the Kutztown Fairgrounds, Kutztown, Pa. November 7 & 8, 1981.

Come to the November meeting and buy a holiday greeting in Cheese-Bits for a buck.

Over 200 attended the VHF Conference this year with over 2400 coming to the Hamarama Flea Market the next day.

* * *

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1982 DX CALLBOOK - \$14.25

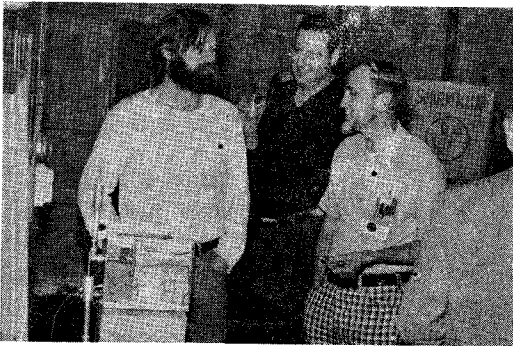
BOTH 1982 CALLBOOKS - \$28.00

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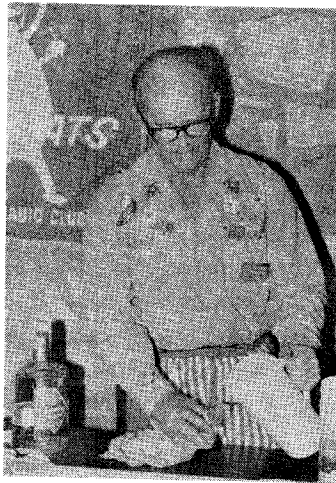
Saddle Brook, NJ 07662 - Call George N2CG - 201-843-5130

after 7 PM for info. Pack-Rats save \$2.50 UPS charge, N2CG

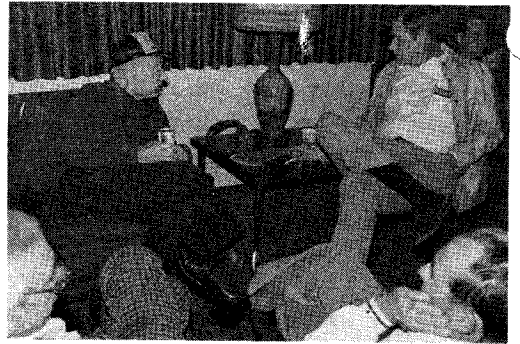
will be at December meeting and bring books. W3CL has order forms.



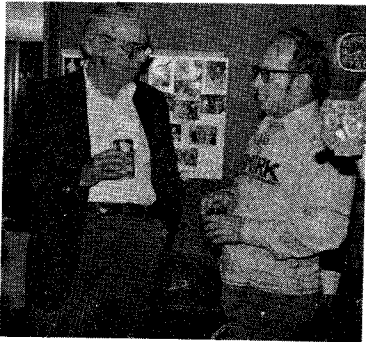
A HAPPY TRIO



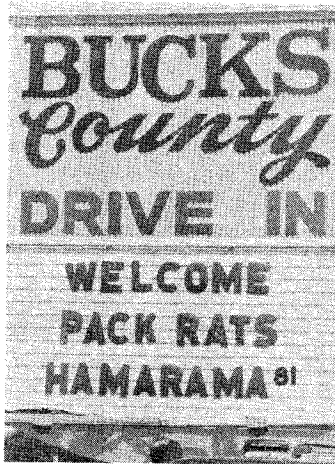
K3MXX DOING HIS BIT



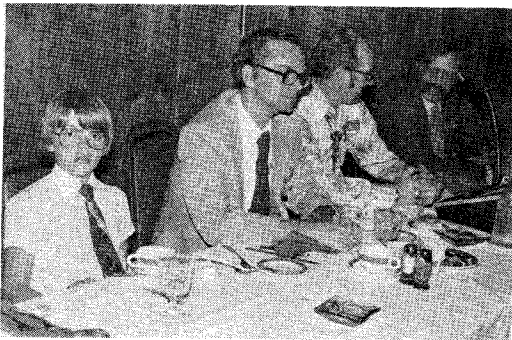
A SERIOUS DISCUSSION



W3ZD CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN
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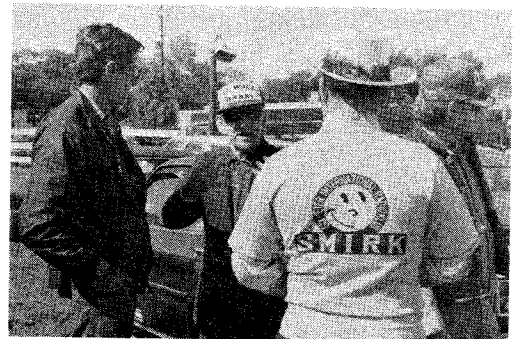
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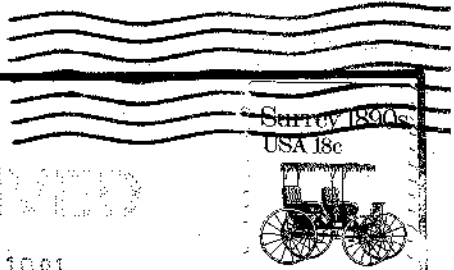
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