

PACK RATS CHEESE BITS

VOLUME IV MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILA., PA.
(50.2, 144.2 and 221.4 MC)

NUMBER 10

W3CCX
(meeting notices, last page) JANUARY 1962



"CHEESE BITS" PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC.,
PHILA., PA.

10¢ a copy \$1.00 a year

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Phila., 41, Pa.
215 DA. 4-7524

CLUB CALL: W3CCX
TRUSTEE: W3FDZ, CHARLES KOELSCH
2600 Horsham Road,
Hatboro, Pa.

PRESIDENT: W2AXU, John Power
VICE-PRES: K3IUV, Bert Soltoff
REC. SEC.: W3ZRR, Ray Whitehead
COR. SEC.: W2EIF, Joe Kilgore
TREASURER: W3MVF, Dave Bloch

DIRECTORS: W3KKN, Ernest Kenas
W3CL, Harry Stein
W3HKZ, Edward Kushner
W3SAD, Frankie Brick
K3CIV, Ralph Hersh
(Ex-Officio)

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:
W3AYG, John Harris
K3LBT, Alfred Obenland

MEETINGS: DIRECTORS: Second Wed.
of each month.

GENERAL: Third Wed. of
each month.

MEETING PLACE: WEST OAK LANE JEWISH
COMMUNITY CENTER,
SEDGWICK AND THOURDN
STS., MT. AIRY, PHILA.

NETS: 144.2, each Monday 0100 GMT
50.2, each Monday 0200 GMT
221.4, each Monday 0300 GMT
NITWIT NET each Monday follow-
6 meter net at 50.2.

NET CONTROL STATIONS:

2 meters, W3SAD, alt. W3AYG
6 meters, W3CL
220 net, W3KKN
NITWIT NET, W3SAD

THE MEANING OF WINTER

TO THE JR. OP.:— Snow forts; snow
fights; sledding; skating; snowmen
and just plain rolling in the snow.

TO THE OM:— Anti-freeze; tire chains
or snow tires; snow shovels and
defrosting the rotator.

TO THE XYL:— Cough syrup; runny noses;
wet clothing; sloppy floors; tripp-
ing over overshoes, sleds and
shovels; gloves drying on the ra-
diators and calling, "Shut that
door!"

TO THE BIRD ON THE SNOWMAN'S HAT:—
"Give me some bread and a little
fat."

CANCELLATION OF MEETINGS

If for any reason it becomes necessary
to cancel the meeting, due to snow or
ice, such notice will be given on all
nets at 7:00 P.M. the night of the
meeting.

Bulletins from G.E.

#412-61-91 11/28/61

OWENSBORO, Ky.—A kit of 14 types of
"service-designed" tubular electrolytic
capacitors now is offered by General
Electric.

These 14 types can replace more than
50 types of conventionally-designed
capacitors. G-E replacement electro-
lytics are manufactured in a system of
"application ranges" which reduces the
number of different types necessary.
This is possible because in most fil-
tering applications a capacitor of
larger capacity and voltage rating
than the original may be substituted.
Thus the G-E capacitor line of less
than 300 types can replace the more
than 1,200 types now in use.

The kit (K-100) consists of an assort-
ment of 19 capacitors packed in a use-
ful 10-drawer plastic parts cabinet.
The capacities range from 2 to 500
microfarads and voltage manimums from
50 to 475 volts. Teh selection aup-
plied will fill 90 percent of the
tubular capacitor replacement require-
ments.

The "stock-saver" kit lists at \$30
for the capacitors plus \$4.98 for the
plastic cabinet. However, the com-
plete kit as available to radio and
television service technicians for
\$17.95 through authorized electronic
parts distributors. -30-

#412-61-99 12/18/61

OWENSBORO, Ky.—Important developments
in electronics will be described by
scientist and engineers of eight
General Electric departments in a
series of weekly "ham" radio broad-
casts.

The programs will be beamed to the
180,000 radio amateurs who make up
the eastern technical network of the
U.S. Air Force Military Affiliate
Radio System (MARS). G.E.'s Receiving
Tube Department is co-ordinating the
series.

Each program will be taped for broad-
cast at 2 p.m. (EST) on its assigned
Sunday. Programs will last an hour
and will be followed by "live" on-
the-air question-and-answer periods.

Schedule for the broadcasts is:

January 6 -- "New Electron Tubes for
the Modern Era", by Dr. J.E. Beggs,
Research Laboratory, Schenectady.

January 14 -- "Thermionic Integrated
Module Circuits for High-Tempera-
ture Environments", by Allen P.
Heese, W4PFQ, Receiving Tube
Department, Owensboro.

February 4 -- "Advances in Broadband
Communications", by Kent Worthen,
Communications Products Department,
Lynchburg, Va.

February 11 -- "Exploring the Iono-
sphere with Satellites", by Dave
M. Bray, K2LMG, Advanced Electron-
ics Center, Ithaca, N.Y.

(G.E. Bulletins, cont'd)

MARS BROADCASTS, cont'd

March 4 -- "Tunnel Diodes--What They Are--And What They Can Do", by R. L. Watters, W2RDL, Research Laboratory.

March 11 -- "Tunnel Diode Circuitry", by Eric Gottlieb, Semiconductor Products Department, Syracuse, N.Y.

April 1 -- "The Advantages of Compactron Multi-Function Tubes in Electronic Equipment", by Leo T. Bowled, W4JPG and C.D. McCool, Receiving Tube Department.

April 8 -- "What Computers Can Do", by Ed. Wolff, General Engineering Laboratory, Schenectady.

April 15 -- "Latest Trends in Military Type Transistors", by David T. Geiser, Light Military Electronics Department, Utica, N.Y.

-30-

#412-61-103

12/22/61

DWENSBORO, Ky.--To aid electronic experimenters and hobbyists, General Electric now is making available through authorized parts distributors a package of two 12-pin sockets for Compactron devices.

Several of the six types of Compactron devices now registered are appearing in consumer television and radio sets in lieu of conventional tubes and transistors and are readily available in the distributor market. G.E. expects additional types will be registered in the next few weeks and that many more will come into popular use during 1962.

The pair of sockets, packaged in a plastic bag, is offered at a suggested user price of 39 cents. The sockets call for a chassis hole of 1 1/8-inch diameter and mounting holes spaced 1 5/16 inches center-to-center.

A new feature in sockets is incorporated --a raised "key" ridge between pins 1 and 12 to help insert the Compactron device in hidden locations. Pins are numbered on the bottom of each socket.

-30-

"OSCAR"

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 829 FROM ARRL HDQ. WEST HARTFORD CONN, DEC. 20, 1961

TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

All amateurs are urged to send reports of intercepts of OSCAR passes by radio to Project OSCAR Assn., Sunnyvale, California. Basic data such as accurate time first heard and last heard and HI rate are helpful. W1AW nightly bulletins give tracking predictions which can be applied to your location as described in July QST. Radi reports in the form specified in September QST can go through National Traffic System channels or a local amateur who works in nets. Amateurs equipped for both HF and VHF can perform an important

service by relaying these bulletins on VHF and accepting OSCAR reports from VHF amateurs for relay on traffic nets.

AR

Two of our members have recorded the passes of OSCAR, W2AXU, Jack and W3HKZ Ed. Ed played the recording on the 2 meter net of December 18. Other members tracking OSCAR are W3GXB, Bob, W3CL, Harry, W3HFY, Hal and W3LHF, Dave.

All hearing it reported it at 144.988 MC.

When sending your report to Project OSCAR, SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA, the information needed is; Time first heard and time last heard, (GMT); Number of HI's heard and, if possible, the location, Longitude and latitude. For more information see July and Sept. QST.

A HAM'S CHRISTMAS

Written by; W9SUL, Robert "Little Bob" H. Schaeffer, RFD 3, Newcastle, Indiana.

Contributed by; K3JJZ, El Weisman

"Twas the night before Christmas, and in the Ham Shack was the warm glow of tubes in the transmitter rack. The log book was brought up to date with great care In case the FCC might someday be there. XYL and harmonics were snug in their beds

(No Tennessees Indians to addle their heads)

I plugged in the miks and the new VFO Getting all set for a nice QSO. When from the relays there rose such a clatter

I yanked the big switch to see what was the matter.

Then up on the roof by the two-meter beam

There came QRM like a hetrodyne scream: "On Gonset, On Babcock, On Viking and Elmac!

On Ranger, On Collins! On Heathkit and Eimac!

Bias to the grid and volts to the plate,

Just watch that S-meter while we all modulate!"

As I turned to the rig and reached for a dial

From the antenna tuner Santa slid with a smile.

An RF choke, he held tight in his teeth

And coax encircling his head like a wreath.

A bundle of Hamgear he had flung on his back

Was that my name on a new power pack? He had a stub nose like an egg insulator

And his cheeks glowed bright red like a hot oscillator.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work

Laying out all the gear, then turned with a jerk.

(A HAM'S CHRISTMAS cont'd)

And laying a wave meter alongside his nose
Said "pse QSL?" and up the feeders he rose.
He climbed up the dipole, to his team gave a whistle
And away they all flew like a jet-propelled missile.
But I heard his last signal from the ionosphere;
"Seventy Three; Eighty-eight! and a Merry Christmas!"

Editor's note; We are sorry that we did not receive the preceeding for the December issue.

CLUB HISTORY

By W3SAD, Frank Brick

FIRST EVENTS IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB

Organization meeting held at the QTH of W3FSC, Oscar Jacoby, on May 15, 1956.

PRESIDENT: W3IBH, Charles Clements
SECRETARY: W3SAD, Frank Brick

QTH: Chelton Hills Recreation Center, Upsal and Lober Streets, Mt. Airy, Phila., Pa. 27 families attended.

CLUB FREQUENCY: 144.2

HOUSE COMMITTEE: W3CL, Harry Stein, W3CPT, Ken Harrison.

PICNIC: August 12, 1956 at Fort Washington State Park, Flourtown, Pa.

CHARTER COMMITTEE: W3CL, Harry Stein, W3CPT, Ken Harrison, W3FSC, Oscar Jacoby, W3KKN, Ernest Kenas and W3SAD, Frank Brick.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: W3KKN, Ernest Kenas, W3NKD, Vic Lees and W3RZU, Elio Collusi.

DRAFT OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS: W3CPT, Ken Harrison

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS adopted on September 25, 1956

SPECIAL MEETING: September 25, 1956, for election of officers.

RESULTS: PRESIDENT: W3FSC, Oscar Jacoby
VICE-PRES: W3ZEY, Russ Widger
SECRETARY: W3SAD, Frank Brick
TREASURER: W3CPT, Ken Harrison
DIRECTORS: Two Years
W3IBH, Charles Clements
W3KKN, Ernest Kenas
One Year
W3CL, Harry Stein
W3TYX, Bud McCollom

DIRECTORS' MEETING held at QTH of W3TYX, Bud McCollom, October 10, 1956.

ARTICLE VII, of Constitution amended in October 1956.

Our speaker for the October meeting was W2BDS, Mike Ercolino, of Telrex. Winners of the first donations were: W3QZP, Bill Miller and W3QAS, Lyn Rowland, Sr. Telrex Beams donated by W2BDS.

WINNER OF FIRST LAPEL PIN: W3NSI, Lyn Rowland, Jr.

LADIES NITE: November 14, 1956 at Chelton Hills Recreation Center.

TEMPORARY OFFICERS:
President; XYL of W3FSC, Sylvia Jacoby.

Vice Pres.: XYL of W3NKD, Anna May Lees

Treasurer: XYL of W3CPT, Sophie Harrison

Secretary: XYL of W3SAD, Helen Brick
Films of Ice Skating and the Picnic were shown.

Coffee and home made cakes were served and provided by the XYL's.

CONTEST MEETING: December 19, 1956
Chairman, W3KKN, Ernest Kenas

FIRST V.H.F.S.S. SCORE: 27 members, 50,177 points. Third place.

HIGH SCORING MEMBERS:

- 1.-W3KKN, Ernest Kenas, 8136
- 2.-W3TYX, Bud McCollom, 5500
- 3.-W3ZEY, Russ Widger, 3690
- 4.-W3IBH, Charles Clements, 3672
- 5.-W3UKI, Gerard Foley, 3504

INSURANCE COMMITTEE: W3QZP, Bill Miller and W3UMI, Wilfred Jones.

PICNIC COMMITTEE: W3SAD, Frank Brick, W3HYD, Leonard Ciucci and W3FOZ, Charles Koelsch.

OFFICIAL PACK RATS NET: Monday nites on 144.2. W3SAD, Frank Brick and W3ZEY, Russ Widger net controls.

INSURANCE POLICY purchased in May, 1957

MAY 15, 1957: NOMINATING CHAIRMAN:

W3KKN, Ernest Kenas
NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR:

PRESIDENT:

W3DHH, Edward Stewart

W3QZP, Bill Miller

W3ZEY, Russ Widger

VICE-PRESIDENT:

W3TYX, Bud McCollom

W3FOZ, Charles Koelsch

W3HWV, Bill Benner

SECRETARY:

W3SAD, Frank Brick

TREASURER:

W3CPT, Ken Harrison

DIRECTORS: TWO YEARS

W3CL, Harry Stein

W3FSC, Oscar Jacoby

P.S. I must apologize to W3ZEY, Russ for omitting his name in the Charter Member List last month. There were 11 Charter Members with 9 remaining.

73,
Frank Brick, W3SAD
Club Historian

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

By "Mother Rat"

I am not speaking of shelters this time, but communications. I am not telling you boys that you should join either RACES or AREC, but I am complaining about the LACK of activity on the part of both groups in the Philadelphia area. As far as I know, the groups are just organized and that

is all. As quoted from the North Penn "Static", a few issue back, we know that RACES died in Montgomery County, not due to lack of interest on the amateur's part, but lack of interest in political circles. For a time they had a fine organization in action.

I may be wrong and if so I stand corrected, but the only time that Civil Defense, RACES And AREC Communications are active in the Philadelphia area, is during the National Civil Defense Drill.

I must admit that Civil Defense Communications holds a drill each Wednesday evening, but what they discuss I don't know because we were told not to call in until we received a number from them.

Let's face it, these emergency communications are not set up just in case there should be an attack by a warring nation. They are set up for just what they say; EMERGENCY such as; fire, explosion, flood, snow abandonment and medical help for hospitals, doctors and individuals.

I have seen many cars with, OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS, CIVIL DEFENSE plates on the front bumper, but I have yet to see a car with a plate reading, OFFICIAL MOBILE UNIT, RACES or AREC. Now, in the case of an emergency, you figure it out. Which mobile unit will get the right of way?

Now I would like to ask a few questions Does the Communications Department of Philadelphia county know that such organizations as RACES And AREC exist? Do they know what frequencies you transmit on? Do hospitals and doctors know of your service? Does the Red Cross know of your service? Is it the fault of the co-ordinators or is it the fault of parties needing your services? Who knows?

I know, from reading other club papers, that these organizations work, and are known, in other Pennsylvania Counties, and are also publicized in their newspapers.

There are two such organizations, **both are AREC**, in Cleveland, Ohio, who are so well organized that they print a monthly bulletin on their activities. One is "The Blurb" printed by the County of Cuyahoga, Office of Civil Defense, Cleveland, 14, Ohio, the other is "Loud and Clear" Red Cross Disaster Service, Cleveland, 15, Ohio. It seems that these two organizations get together with hospitals and create their own emergencies to prove their ability.

In Philadelphia, AREC has a co-ordinator and a frequency, but no net or net control. Frankie, a member of AREC always calls for other members each Monday Nite following the 6 meter net, the other two club members call in but no other members of AREC check in. So--what else can we do? We are not on AREC frequency, but we know that many are listening at 50.2 and we tune up to 51 Mc, AREC frequency, but no one calls in except K3HJA and K3GAS.

members of the Pack Rats.

What is needed is:

- 1-A weekly net to get acquainted
- 2-Publicity among interested parties needing the service
- 3-Special arranged drills

Don't ask me to do it, I have too much other work to do. The co-ordinator knows all the members, and he should contact some of them to do the work.

88,
Mother Rat.

RADAR DETECTORS

(Here I am again with another complaint.)

Ever since it was announced that the State of Pennsylvania, (OK, I know it's a Commonwealth) was going to enforce speed laws by radar (other states also use it), there have been a lot of people selling and buying radar detectors, even schematics for building your own, and they have also been given as prizes on TV.

Early in September, on "Morgan In The Morning", WFIL, TV, the head of the State Troopers, Belmont Barracks, explained Radar; how it works and how it is set up. I am pretty positive that he also said radar detectors are unlawful and if you are caught with one you are subject to confiscation and fine, or both. There also were many articles in the newspapers regarding the illegal use of them.

My only comment is this; Stay within the speed limit and you needn't worry about radar. 50 and 60 miles per hour should certainly be fast enough for anyone. A car can kill at 30 M.P.H., so why try for 75 M.P.H.!

Mother Rat

COMMENTS ON SIX & TWO

By SMEL A. RHAT

Tuned onto a QSO the other day, which was being carried on by what I can only describe as a couple of Characters -maybe they have never been on the CB band, but possibly had listened to it, and decided that some of its poor operating procedures were for them.

It developed that the participants of the QSO traveled extensively in quest of their daily bread and admittedly put thousands of miles per month on their respective cars. They were, fortunately for the rest of us, only interested in occasional local QSO's. They could see no reason for this high power stuff on a band that was ground wave only and of course, "line of sight", meant for local contacts only. Contests also came in for rough treatment, because it interfered with their QSO's. They were rock bound with one crystal at the low end of the band.

One of the operators confided that he had recently received a notice from

(COMMENTS ON 6 & 2 cont'd)

the local O O to the effect that he was out of the band. His crystal did not indicate this, and besides the O O would have had to have a counter to check it, (he was only 40 KC out). A few sentences later it was revealed that the local O O was not the only one that was aware of the condition, since he had received a separate notice from one of those "snoopers" from up state.

The O O's in general were given a good roasting, and he finally concluded with the remark so often repeated by the ignorant -- "In his opinion 6 meters was an experimental band", and not subject to all this nonsense."

My own thoughts were in the form of a question -- "How experimental can you be, if your equipment is limited to a "Sixer" type transceiver, assembled from very detailed instruction, and operated on a very spasmodic basis, into a makeshift antenna?" (This was the first time on the air for 7 months.)

Apparently this gentleman and his friend who agreed with him had not given more than a token glance at the rules and regulations of the FCC. If they had they would have found that the amateurs are not owned by amateurs, -- we are licensed to operate on the amateur bands. Your license carries the provision that you are responsible for knowing the regulations and shall operate according to them. Ignorance is no excuse in any case.

The contest is coming up--don't forget, the Mt. Airy V.H.F. Club is a leader in this affair and it is up to you members to do a real job if you want to stay on top. Go to it--it's a lot of work, but worth it.

Gud luck,
Smel.

SWAP & SHOPPE

Conducted by, W3ZRR, Ray Whitehead
4534 N. Smédley Street,
Phila., 40, Pa.

FOR SALE: TECRAFT XMTR. 20 watts input.
Power supply
Low pass filter
DQW KEY Ant. relay
Complete set of spare tubes
Foot switch

Ready to put on the air.
Just connect ant and rcvr.
\$50.00

CONTACT: K3HJA, Earl Wenk
526 E. Ashdale Street,
Phila., 20, Pa.
215 GL. 5-8959

FOR SALE: Receiver, SX-101-A
6 mo. old. Perfect
Closest offer to \$350.00
HT-37- 1 year old, perfect
\$350.00

\$650.00 for both.

CONTACT: K3MLR, Martin B. Kassell
484 Lyceum Avenue
Phila., 28, Pa.
215 IV. 2-4860 or
215 TR. 7-8281

FOR SALE: 6 meter transmitter, HB
6146 in final. New condition. Cost over \$100 to build.
Modulator and 2 power supplies on same chassis.
Slight TVI at home QTH.
\$65.00

CONTACT: K3NZI, Glen Hall, Sr.
6707 Woolston Avenue,
Phila., 38, Pa.
215 LI. 9-9392

TRADE: 2 Westinghouse 3" sq. panel meters. Cap 3000 V. New.
1C melody Buescher saxophone with case.
1 C8₂L BB repeating target pistol
1 Daisy target gun
Trade for ham gear or sell.

CONTACT: K3HWZ, William McCutcheon
124 Orchard Lane
Feasterville, Pa.
215 EL. 7-4972

FOR SALE: Power supply 12 V in-350V-
175 Mils. vibrator. 450 V-
200 Mils. dynamotor on same chassis. \$15.00

CONTACT: K3HIN, Dick
215-OR. 3-2207

WANTED: 2 meter gear.

CONTACT: K3OKY, Mitch Rosenberg
1640 E. Tulpenhocken St.
Phila., 38, Pa.

Reprint of W3BYB's phone number. It didn't come out clear on some of the copies last month. MI. 6-7350.

WHAT HAPPENS

W3HKZ, Ed, and K3IUV, Bert both have TV transmitters on 432 Mc.

Santa Claus treated Jim, K3EHQ to a new tower. George, K3QFQ helped him to raise it.

If you would like to have a picture taken of your ham shack contact K3QGG, George Braxton, 6047 N. 21st Street, Phila., 38, Pa. Copies of the pictures will be given to Frankie for the club files.

It seems that you will have to pay the extra \$3.00 for your call letter plates as the bill lies buried in Harrisburg.

Good to see Karl, W3ASD, back on his feet after a short illness. His store is practically completed. Had to stop work on while he was sick. Had a nice visit from Nell and Wyn while Karl and Frankie went to the meeting.

Howard, K3EPB, now has a trailer, good size. OK boys, just what you need for the June QSO Party.

Walt, W3KLL, practically rebuilt his 6 meter rig. Putting in a fine signal now from Lafayette Hills.

Doc Nichols, W3JAY, suffered a heart attack on Thanksgiving. As far as we know he is much better now. Take it easy, Doc.

El, K3JJZ, boo-boo'd in his report on MVF's tower raising. He forgot to mention the Sid, W3GEW, was also present. Sham on you, El.

Doc Sharpe, W3CLT, now has a Clegg 99 installed in his office so that he can get on the net on time.

Doc Stewart, W3IHT, June and the two dogs recently return from a trip to New Orleans.

Gee, how many Doc's do we have in the club. Let's see, we have Doc Nichols, W3JAY; Doc Sharpe, W3CLT; Doc Stewart, W3IHT; Doc Cutler, K3GAS and Doc Lauer, K3GAY. W3JAY, General Practitioner; W3CLT, Chiroprapist; W3IHT, Psychiatrist; K3GAS, Dentist and K3GAY, Psychoanalyst. What, no undertakers?

W3CFS, Ed, reports information on the Pa. Vehicle Law for future transmitter hunts. Nothing should extend past the car on the drivers side or more than six inches past the other side of the car. Ask Hal, W3HFY, it cost him a fine of \$15.00.

Maybe you will remember reading a letter in a past issue from George Eddy, of Peoli, asking for help to get on the air. At the time he did not have a call. He is now on the air with a general license under the call of K3RNX. He called in on the six meter net to say thank you to K3HWZ, Bill, for helping him.

Jim, W3KXH, is discontinuing the Code Practice until February. Although some of our members attained general class licenses through his class, only two, K3HSS and K3GAS sent him cards to let him know they were copying him. It is very discouraging to sit there week after week sending code and not to hear from anyone. All it will cost you is a phone call or a 3¢ post card.

Ellis, W3IXL, has a new addition to his family. a HT 32.

Good to hear Ralph, K3CIV, in fine voice again. He had a surprise visit from his daughter in Kansas.

We wish to send our sympathy to two of our member families; To "Kelly"; K3NCDN, on the passing of the XYL's father, and to Bert, K3IUU, on the passing of the XYL's mother.

Congratulations to Bob, W3GXB, and XYL Ruth on the arrival of a little boy, December 27.

Heard that K3EGP, Ralph was in the Hospital for awhile. Hope you are home and feeling just fine now.

Who had a birthday on Pearl Harbor day? Did you put the flags out, Dick?

K3CXD, Bill, was elected Vice-President of the WENS and is net control for their net at 50.91 on Tuesday's at 9 P.M. Congratulations, Bill.

PAGODA AWARD: Contact any 10 members of the READING RADIO CLUB. Contacts must have been made after October 13, 1961. Send the station call, time and date worked to; Al Brailer, 418 Woodward St., Reading, Pa.

Called our esteemed Treasurer, W3MVF, Dave, today to see how he was feeling. Since I am a lady (?) and we were on the landline he said, "Lousy". I am sure he meant "(())##\$& !!!". It is not that he is in pain but just plain discussed. After his return from the hospital for kidney stones his leg swelled up. He was all set to go to the meeting, but the doctor told him to get home and in bed and take his medicine. It seems to be an attack of phlebitis which his doctor said was quite common after an operation. So there he is in bed with his leg propped up. Made him feel better by telling him we had some money for him. By the way, if you haven't sent in your dues yet better do so now.

FIRST ISSUE

By some accident we lost the first issue of "Cheese Bits" and were lucky enough to borrow one by which we could make more. This issue contains the biography of Matt Gelardi, W3CCX, the call that the club now has as a memorial to him. We are offering these to any who would like to have one, at a slight charge of \$.10, one thin dime, to cover the cost of handling and mailing. So far we have orders for five. We will try to have them ready in about two weeks. The club is not handling this, it is strictly my own project. If you want one send your dime to; "Mother Rat" 829 W. Fishers Ave., Phila., 41, Pa.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Walt, K3BPP; Howard, K3EPB; Al, K3EOD; Sid, W3GEW; Lyn, W3NSI; Walt, W3CLQ and Dick, W3FQD.

Look for a visitor at our January meeting. Received a phone call today from K3RNV, Jack Robinson asking when and where we met and if he would be able to visit us. Naturally I told him yes. We would like to thank W3ZXU, Gene Pressler, Editor of North Penn Static for giving Jack our name.

DATES TO REMEMBER

This issue may be too late for January 6 & 7, but don't forget, May 5, 1962, "Ladies Nite".

OSCAR NEWSLETTER

December 21, 1961

As of December 19, 1961 (one week in orbit) the amateur radio satellite Oscar I had completed 104 revolutions about the earth on a North-South-North orbit. Reports are beginning to pour into the Oscar Headquarters. A total of 296 reports from 11 foreign countries have been received, with radio messages indicating that more are on the way. Mail has been delayed because of the Christmas rush, but it is hoped that future reports will reach us more rapidly. Reports have proven to be consistent and accurate enough for use in generating tracking predictions. Telemetry information provided by the keying rate indicates that Oscar I is running a fever. Recent data establishes the temperature of the package to be 125°F.

The following is a summary of the Oscar I Satellite:

Frequency: Approximately 144.983 Mc. Power Output: 100+ milliwatts.
HI-rate: Proportional to temperature. (10 HI's in 30 seconds = 64 F).
Tumble rate: Approximately 20 seconds.
Apogee: (Point farthest from the earth) - Approximately 275 miles.
Perigee: (Point closest to the earth) - Approximately 150 miles.
Orbital Period: Approximately 92 minutes. Total Doppler Shift. Approximately 6.5 kc.

(Frequency received is higher than transmitted when satellite is approaching your station; lower when going away).

Transmitter: Transistor crystal oscillator on 72.5 mc., transistor amplifier and "Veri-cap" diode doubler to 145 mc. Keyer consists of transistor multi-vibrator and counters with diode logic. Oscillator is keyed in base circuit.

Power Supply: Mercury batteries. Expected life of batteries: 3 to 4 weeks.

Antenna: 1/4-wave monopole; about 19 inches long. Dimensions and weight: 12" x 10" x 8". Weight: 10 pounds.

All daytime passes are from North to South: All nighttime passes are from South to North.

A preliminary review of a sample of reports from one pass provides some interesting information. The acquisition times and fade-out time correlate closely among all the receiving stations in the same area. Further, the correlations have improved noticeably for the later orbital passes. This emphasizes that operators are gaining experience and that the predictions have been sufficiently accurate to permit early acquisition. Many amateurs have been surprised at the great range which may be spanned by this beacon, whose output power is about 1/4 that required to light a flash-light bulb. Reports indicate reliable reception up to a distance of about 1400 miles from the satellite path. On an overhead pass, signal reports of 40 decibels above noise level are common!

The Oscar Data Reduction group has reported a few messages indicating that the last dot of the letter "I" has been missing. Anybody noticing this who has a tape recording of the "missing dot" is requested to air mail it to the Association as soon as possible.

Reports of the "HI" rate are urgently requested. If the temperature inside the package continues to rise, it is possible that the operating life of Oscar could be cut short by a high temperature failure of some component. The temperature rise does not seem linear, so all reports will be welcome! Also, please monitor the frequency in off-hours to determine if Oscar can be heard by unusual propagation modes at great distances! Orbital data is being broadcast by W1AW (see QST for schedule) and by the Voice of America "Space-Warn" program on various frequencies (9.525, 11.79, 11.83, and 15.29 mc) at 0330 GMT, Monday through Saturday.

Send all reception reports of Oscar to: Project Oscar Association, Box 183, Sunnyvale, California, U.S.A.

Thanks for your splendid cooperation and keep up the good work! 73.

/ss/ Bill, W6SAI

Just wondering if Ed, W3HKZ, and Jack W2AXU, noticed the missing dot on "I" in their tape recording of Oscar. If you have and you would like to send the tape to Project Oscar Association and still keep your original, it can be done. The two of you get together and Jack re-tape his on Ed's and Ed re-tape his on Jack's. Simple when you figure it out, isn't it?

Thanks to the "Oscar Newsletter" the number of stencils turned out just right for this issue. I thought I would have to use a blank sheet of paper for the address. To make it come out with one blank side I must use an uneven number of stencils. Boy, I knew Oscar was good for something. All kidding aside, it seems that VHF and UHF are the best bands for space.

HIGH LIGHTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING, DECEMBER 13, 1961

The board was presented with two letters from members requesting to be placed on the retired member list due to circumstances beyond their control. The board accepted their request by a majority vote.

The two members placed on the retired list are: W3NKO, Victor Lees, and K3GOZ, Herman Klein. Please write, "Retired" beside their call on your membership list.

We would like to take this time to wish speedy recovery to Betty, XYL of K3GOZ. She was in traction for two weeks with a slipped disc.

HIGH LIGHTS REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 27, 1961

Our visitors were K3KKM/3, Woody; K8TBR, Bob, W. Va.; and K3BAP, Don.

Membership Committee: W3CL, Harry presented the letters of the members requesting to be placed on the Retired Member List. He then presented the application of W3MXW, Joe Salamon for a vote. His application was accepted and he was voted in as a member. Welcome to the "Rats Nest", Joe.

W2EIF, Joe, then presented ways and means of operating in a contest assisted by W3CL, Harry; W3KKN, Ernie and W3HYJ, Joe.

MEETING NOTICES

JANUARY 10 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors meeting will be held at the QTH of K3LBT, Al Oberland, 99 W. Roselyn Street, Phila., 20, Pa., 8 P.M. If for any reason you are unable to attend, please call; 215 HA. 4-7986

JANUARY 11 DELAWARE VALLEY COUNCIL

The regular meeting of the Delaware Valley Council of Radio Clubs will be held on Thursday, January 11, at 8 P.M. at Town Hall, Germantown Ave., and Haines Street.

JANUARY 17 REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the club will be held on Wednesday, January 17, at 8 P.M. at West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center, Sedgwick and Thouron Streets.

The topic will be "Crying Towel" You will be the speaker.

NEW MEMBER

W3MXW, JOSEPH H. SALAMON, XYL NORMA
56 Fahnstock Road, MAY
Malvern, Pa.
215-NI. 4-6928