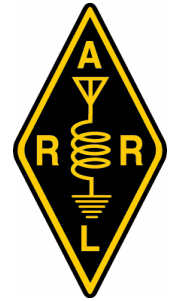




CHEESE BITS

W3CCX
CLUB MEMORIAL CALL

ARRL
Affiliated
Club



Volume LIV

October 2013

Number 10

**PREZ
SEZ:**

What a busy time to be on the air with VHF/UHF; Fall Sprints, 10 gig and up, EME Contest, September Contest.

I hope you all had as much fun as I have. In spite of fever and chills, I endured the 432 Sprint because the conditions were so good. I ended up right behind Herb with 60 QSO's and 24 grids. I heard lots of packrats and was glad to fill the log with contacts from familiar voices. Thanks to all who got on for the past several Sprints.

Only the uW Sprint is left and it may beat me to this editorial.

We now have several months to catch up on any work that needs to be done to our stations. If the RF is in fine shape, then take the opportunity to improve your logging, switching and operating systems.

We will be talking about logging systems and how integrating them can assist you with your contest score at the meeting this month.

If your RF is in good shape, and your station is ready for January, then you need to sharpen your skills on some HF contests. This month will see the **CQ WW SSB** contest during the last weekend. It's not only a great way to sharpen your contest skills, but to get some new DX on the low bands. You can do well particularly on the second day when DX is just waiting to be worked from all over the world.

Next month is the CW equivalent, and that is great way to improve your CW skills for that weak signal contact needed for more grids. CW is a great way to increase your score on ALL bands, not only the microwaves. During the Sprints you can tell when most folks have worked all they can because you no longer see SSB signals on the panadapter. Everyone (at least all of those who are calling cq) has moved to the mode that will produce more contacts.

An even weaker signal method of making contacts is WSJT, another marvelous way to increase your score on the VHF and up bands. Not just with meteor scatter, but with JT modes that dig below the noise floor; we'll be talking about them and demonstrating live contacts at the November meeting. It sure was good to get back to dinner at Giuseppe's before the meeting last month and each month that we meet at the Ben Wilson Senior Center.

We've had another highly successful, informative, and enjoyable conference. It's an event where everyone is excited to fellowship and to share and learn. We had some great presentations and I've heard nothing but praise from all who shared their experience. You won't want to miss the next one. The conference this month is Microwave Update to be held in Morehead KY, it's always a top notch conference.

I look forward to seeing you at this month's meeting, but in the mean time,

Lets work on lots of bands. **Phil K3TUF**

Pack Rats **CHEESE BITS** is a monthly publication of the **Mt. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.** -Southampton, PA.

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PACKRAT BEACONS - W3CCX/B

FM29jw Philadelphia, PA
50.080 144.284 222.064 432.286 903.072 1296.245 MHz
2304.043 3456.207 5763.196 10,368.062 MHz (as of 1/08)

MONDAY NIGHT NETS

TIME **FREQUENCY**
7:30 PM 50.145 MHz

8:00 PM 144.150 MHz
8:30 PM 222.125 MHz
8:30 PM 224.58R MHz
9:00 PM 432.110 MHz
9:30 PM 1296.100 MHz
10:00 PM 903.100 MHz

NET CONTROL

K3EOD FM29II
WA3QPX FM29di
N3ITT FN20KI
KB1JEY FN20je
W3GXB FN20jm
WB2RVX FM29mt
K3TUF FN10we
WA3SRU FN20le

Visit the Mt Airy VHF Radio Club at: www.packratvhf.com or www.w3ccx.com



Ken sent this picture of the W2EA station on High Knob PA in the Sept VHF contest. A laser QSO at a distance of 1 meter with 1 km capable rigs.

THANKS to the organizers, volunteers, sponsors, presenters and especially to the participants for a very enjoyable and successful Mid Atlantic VHF Conference!

Mid Atlantic VHF Conference in Pictures





Embarrassment of riches: **THANKS** to **EI, K3JJZ & Doc, W3GAD** for sending 116 Photos to choose from for this display

Opinion: ON4KST QSO's in VHF Contests

Originally sent as a "Soapbox" comment on the 432 Fall Sprint by Herb, K2LNS. Here a little food for thought. Note: Herb's use of "Logger" is sometimes thought of as a live sked via chat. Go to the ON4KST site <http://www.on4kst.com/index.php> and register. You'll get the idea.

There was a ton of activity last night here in the northeast. We had red mapping on the APRS logger into Maine. I heard Dave K1WHS, with the back of my antenna 5 x 9. When the yagi's turned around, he pinned my S meter from a 300 mile haul. This condition did not help for any new contacts, since I am able to work that area on a dead winter band.

Another subject revisited was the ON4KST logger. I did utilize the logger during the sprint. I saw nothing but positive use. Smaller stations were able to participate and enjoy working other smaller stations. Some contacts were not successful, but it kept everyone in the game.

We were able to make sure we tried working everyone within our radius.

For myself, running 10 bands in VHF contests, I am very busy. I could do without using loggers. But for others in rural areas, this would surely add fun to their weekends. Even if they were unsuccessful during logger made skeds, perhaps the next contest, they would know improvements were necessary. More power, bigger and higher antennas etc.

I now am totally in support of the use of loggers during any VHF contesting.

I have been operating VHF contests since the late 1950's. I have spent small fortunes on equipment. Even going as far as buying a 4 acre property at 2,010 asl for ham radio, then building a nice country home. Without bragging, I have won many contests, and have many certificates to prove the fact.

Not one dollar has been won. Not enough to buy a PL259.

We do contesting for many reasons. But the biggest is to **enjoy our friends and small community**.

I urge the ARRL to open their eyes, and let our VHF family use loggers during contesting. Let everyone get the most enjoyment out of our precious frequencies.

I hope everyone enjoyed the 432 sprint
I had 66 Q's and 28 grids

73's Herb K2LNS
Stn mgr for WA2FGK

WA2FGK 1296 Dish Set to Go

We are now back to where we were last year with the 12 foot dish for 1296 Mhz. It looks like we learned quite a bit over the winter and have the feed set in a better position.

We mounted the switching preamp on the feed and ran a piece of hardline into the shack to listen for sun noise.

We will be using a TS2000 for our radio. Many of you own this radio or perhaps used one. The S meter has bars for signal strength. We had to eyeball the dish for sideways direction. Once done, we started elevating. As the dish climbed, all of a sudden the bars started climbing. We wound up having **6 bars of sun noise**.

Unbelievable how sharp this antenna is. Now its time to get the cameras mounted and digital compasses. Hopefully I will be able to listen for signals tonight.

Very easy to find stations by using the HB9Q logger.

Last night I worked OK1TEH on 432 mhz and WA4NJP. Then on 144 mhz, I called CQ on 144.114 and had a nice contact with FM8DY in Martinique for another new country.

Enjoy your hobby guys
It's later than you think
Herb K2LNS

REPORTS FROM ARRL SEPTEMBER VHF+ CONTEST

K3MD

Single Op

High Power

14 hours

6 54 18

2 66 26

222 23 14

432 17 14

1296 11 9

181 QSO's - 81 mults = 20,453

Activity down from previous years

KB1JEY

Greetings from my own QTH in Ambler, back from my three week ramble through New England. Saturday, my rabbi gave me the day off from using my amateur radio gear so I could attend to some spiritual matters. I was thinking of taking off the entire weekend from amateur radio but was informed by some of my Packrat peers that they would look upon that poorly. So when I arose this morning, I fired up my various transceivers, transverters, and power amps and looked across the VHF-UHF amateur spectrum.

So what did I do in about 5-6 hours? I made 42 QSOs on the lower four bands. More interestingly, I activated 27 grids, which is way more than I activated during last January's contest [208 Qs, 21 grids] with no real 6 meter openings. The most interesting feature of the day's activity was that only 14-15 of my 42 Qs were with Packrats: K3EOD (with W2SJ on a couple of bands), WA3SRU, K3TUF, and KB3GJT. I heard N3NGE but we never did work each other. I learned that K3MD was "radio-active". I also worked K2LIM on 6 meters, which might have been a Packrat contact (KA2LIM ?)

So where was everyone? Feel free to speculate but not every Packrat has close Packrat friends who will shame him or her into participating in the various VHF-UHF-uWave contests. I guess as a club, we need to make contesting more "compelling". Some worry about getting the younger population into amateur radio. I think that the problem is also with the licensed older generations, including mine. **Perhaps awarding trinkets like mugs and t-shirts would help?** As a BOD member, I welcome feedback and better suggestions on this subject.

K3TUF

Single Op HP

EPA

Operating Time (hrs): 24

Band	QSOs	Mults
6:	125	36
2:	149	38
222:	80	30
432:	92	32
903:	39	16
1.2:	46	19
2.3:	24	11
3.4:	20	9
5.7:	15	8
10G:	10	6
24G:	1	1
Total:	601	206
Total Score = 237,518		

Comments:

Let me be the first to talk about activity. I can only say that I wish there were more activity, but there's not much an individual can do about that. The combination of sports and other distractions will always be with us, but there are still new operators getting on and operating. My station is better than it was 5 and 8 years ago, yet I cannot surpass the scores of those years due to many quiet spells where just no one new is looking for contacts within my field.

... September cont'd

Enough rant, I really enjoy improving the station and making things automatic and better. This is the time to test the latest innovation. This year I added deep search, below the noise floor waterfall producing greatly improved **searching for "the weak ones"**. It was truly a pleasure to use and did produce contacts otherwise lost.

Meteor scatter and even one moon contact was a great highlight of this contest, along with some nice 2 meter openings to our south and southwest. Stations ordinarily difficult to log were S9, that was a blast.

Not nearly as many rovers, but I am deeply grateful to those who were out and about, thanks so much. In the closing hours I strove to break out of the 500 qso count and just barely made it.

Looking forward to some DX contests now, and then the January VHF event.

Phil K3TUF

K1DS/R & K1DS

Yes, it was a beautiful weekend. Many things going on that conflicted with this year's Sept ARRL VHF Contest, but I managed a bit here and there. I got on from home late Sat night and for a few minutes on Sunday AM. I managed to get the rover all set by about 5:30 PM Sunday and was able to hit the two local grids, FN20 and FM29 to work a few folks also. Here's the K1DS/R rover scoreboard:

Band	Q	Grids
50	25	8
144	30	10
222	21	8
432	20	7
903	14	7
1296	13	7
2304	3	2
3456	2	2

128Q=238points x 51+2 grids=12,614

K1DS home station:

144	15	8
432	10	7

25Q=35points x 15 grids=525

W2BVH

Band	QSOs	Grids
50	16	8
144	17	8
222	8	6
432	5	4

TOTALS 46 26

Claimed score = 1534

Spent 2 1/2 hrs Sunday afternoon on the contest during a lull in our yard sale.

Lots of fun; plenty of ops with good ears this contest. Reached FN43 twice with 12 watts on 432. 73, Lenny W2BVH

WA3SRU

Band	QSO's	Grids
50	46	15
144	47	18
222	36	15
432	39	15
903	8	5
1296	11	6

187 74 Score 22,200

NN3Q/R K3WGR

Great WX, hope we have this type wx in January (hihi). For six hours of operating it was enjoyable, and only 110 miles driving. A record score for the least amount of miles driven. NN3Q, and I (K3WGR) thank all who we worked and participated in the contest.

BAND	QSO	PTS	GRD
50	20	20	7
144	59	59	21
222	37	74	13
420	33	66	12
903	16	48	6
1296	16	48	7
2304	11	44	4
3456	10	40	3
5678	12	48	4
10368	8	32	3
222	479	80	

Score 38,320 Activated four grids (FN10, FN20, FM19, FM29)

REPORTS FROM FALL VHF+ SPRINTS

432 KA2LIM

I had not planned being on for the sprint last night due to a prior commitment. Got home just before 9pm and decided to turn things on and at least give AI-W9KXI a contact from his own grid. Wound up working 5 additional stations along with AI before going off to call CQ.

Those of you who know where my home is, know that it is a true 432 hole in the ground. I am elated that I worked 11 stations in 7 grids from "the hole" with the farthest being WZ1V—Ron way out in the SE corner of FN31. Total time on was about 45 minutes. I'm still smiling, thanks to all who took time to listen for the weak signal coming out of "the hole" in FN12nf.

Ken KA2LIM

432 K3TUF

Fantastic conditions to the NE, K1WHS was S9+20, we even tried 10GHz.

Ended up with 60 Q's and 24 Grids. Down to EM85 and EM95, north to FN35 and west to EM89 for distances.

Thanks to all who got on and the SVHFS for sponsoring.

I have some sort of bug and thought I wouldn't be on long. Worked off and on until 10:20 PM. It was fun, even through the fever and headache.

73, Phil K3TUF

432 W2BVH

19 Q's and 9 grids in 1 1/2 hours. Worked down to FM18/19 up to FN42/43 and a seldom heard FN22. I'm happy with the results considering a 12 watt transverter to an 8 foot antenna 5 feet above the roof peak. Would have liked to finally get KA2LIM on 432, but no luck (again!).

73, Lenny

222 K1DS

30 QSOs and 13 grids for me using a 10 el beam and 120 watts. The old Nike Site is now open but with waist-high shrubbery and the leaves are still on the trees, but it was a pleasant night and several Packrats were on. Plenty of CW stations. I heard a call: AJ1A several times, then what sounded like AJ1U. I kept up with it with several QRZ calls. It turned out to be KJ1K whose keyer or VOX seemed to be dropping out the first dash in the "K". Glad to work him tonight as he was up at the Greylock area.

73, Rick, K1DS

222 K3TUF

42 QSOs and 22 grids for a total of 12646 km distance last night on the 222 Sprint.

As Rick said, plenty of CW stations and contacts, 30 percent of my contacts were on CW.

Nice to hear everyone, I missed Sigurd but managed two other contacts in FN32.

73, Phil K3TUF

222 KA2LIM

Well I got back on the hill today and retrieved my log data from the 222 sprint on Tuesday night. The last contact for me was with AI - WA1T in FN43 at 02:59 right at the contest end and then he called me on the phone to chat. Well, I thought I copied the data to a memory stick before shutting down, but found that I didn't have it when I got home, so I'll have to blame AI for distracting me. So here is the "better late than never" report.

It was a fun evening for me, the first 3 contacts were on phone then a CW then another phone and then I switched to CW for most of the rest of the evening. Wound up with 43 Q's and 23 grids. Of those 43 contacts I worked K8GP and KB8VAO on the LVA, started working NY2NY out on Long Island with the omni-stack but had to switch to the beams to finish the contact. Then at 02:28 I worked N8WNA, K8JA and N8AIA all in EN82 and could only hear them and work them on the beams. All the other contacts were made using the stacked omni

...Sprints cont'd

antenna system. I would switch to the other antennas during the contact to see which provided a stronger signal but in most cases would lose them completely until I switched back to the stacked omni's.

Farthest contacts were with K9MRI EN70 in IN at 450 miles, K4TO EM77 in KY at 485 miles and W8MIL EN74 in MI at 450 miles all with the stacked omni's, could not hear them on any other antenna system. So 37 of the 43 contacts were made with the stacked omni's. Nice to have a selection of antenna systems to choose from. And thanks to all who worked me on CW, sure was fun. Summary: 43 Q's / 23 Grids score 1978

Will not be on next week for the 432 sprint due to a prior commitment. Thanks again to all who I worked and the contest sponsors.

Ken KA2LIM

222 K1WHS

Ken, That is a great score. You beat me by a mile. It sounds like you had a some good propagation. My only long QSO was K8GP at 470 miles, they were quite loud at times. All of my grids were in one direction. Nothing to my east or north.

Dave K1WHS

222 W2BVH

25 Q's in 11 grids.

Had a good time. Worked KA2LIM for 1st time on 222. South to K8GP North to K1WHS and of course, many Packrat friends. About 75% of Q's were CW. All in all I'm happy with my results, given my modest set-up (222 ant is at around 38' AGL or 8' ARP (above roof peak).

Hope to be on next week in the 432 with my mighty 12 watts . That power will be going up some time this winter or next spring.

Micros will have to wait until the 902 & 2304 transverters are finished (both are pretty far along), and antennas are hung.

73, Lenny W2BVH

2M K1DS

I decided to take the long yagi out last night, but I only had a short mast. The 32' monster was placed atop the van at just 1 meter above the van roof. The cable blocking the old Nike Site has been removed, but there is a sign saying "no motorized vehicles" on the short piece of blacktop that reaches the hill crest. I also took some time out to check in to the 2m and 902 Packrat nets. The leaves are all still on the trees, so I really didn't have perfectly clear horizons---but using the TS2000 to my 350W SSPA, I managed 56 QSOs in 17 grids including FN04 and 14, EN92. Nothing to the south, and no enhancement to the west.

73, Rick, K1DS



Maidenhead Grids in “Hiking Type” GPS Units

Maidenhead grid display is alive and well in at least some modern “Hiking Type” handheld GPS units. You may have to dig in to the menu system a bit to find it. Here is how WA3PTV found the feature in one of them, as reported on the Microwaves reflector

Hello all.

I received the new Garmin Etrex 20 GPS receiver over the weekend from Walmart in Hagerstown.

The other day, I spent about an hour or so going through the menus to attempt to locate Maiden Head Grid square setup.

At that time I could not find it. Today, I called Garmin support and very quickly, they walked me to the correct setting.

I had already been at that menu (Setup/ Position/ Position Format) and had the Lat/Lon setup in Deg Min, Seconds, but did not scroll down far enough to the Maiden head grid square setting.

It will be very handy during roving, especially during the 10 GHz and up event.

73's Joe
WA3PTV Home location FM19bs

Local school district sign at Maple Valley, Wa.

They should know K1DS comes first ONLY if he gets enough Q's and Grids

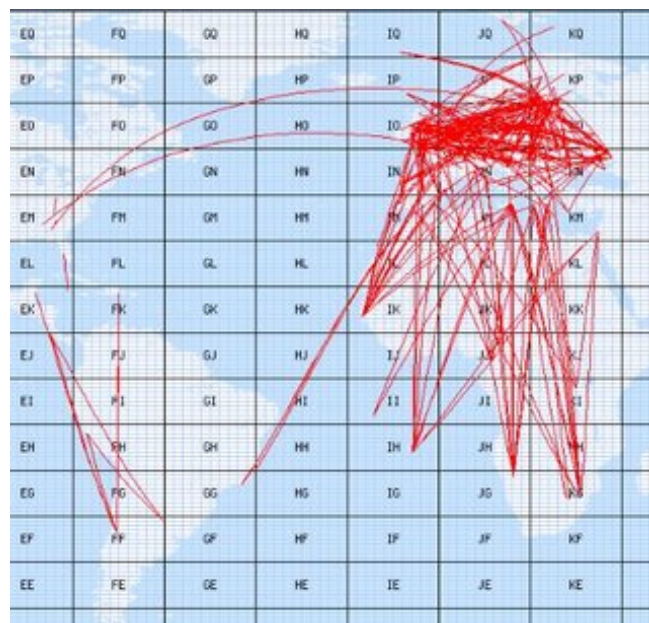
(tnx to K7DPT for pic)



Six Meter DX Report

By Chris Patterson, W3CMP

There has been very little 50 MHz propagation here. With an occasional exception, e.g., September 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 7th, there has been virtually no sporadic E in the northern hemisphere. On those days the sporadic E openings were confined to Europe. There has been good TEP from Africa to southern Europe, and from South America to the Caribbean. On September 1st and September 2nd the TEP reached into the Southern US along the Gulf coast.



ON4KST plots for 9-5-2013

The TEP is to be expected as we approach the Fall equinox. The Pacific paths are starting to open up, and we may get a sniff or two of propagation to VK or ZL as they approach their Spring and Summer. The latest solar forecasts do not show much to be optimistic about for the "peak" of this cycle.

K2UYH / K1JT 2.3GHz and Up EME

As reported by K1DS



The VHF Conference was scheduled on the same weekend as the first weekend of the ARRL EME Contest for microwave activity on bands 2300MHz and up. The K1JT team, headed by Joe Taylor and Al Katz, K2UYH, our newest Packrat, was active on the 2.3, 3.4, 5.6 and 10.3 GHz bands. Al has added a small winch and raising fixture to more easily change feeds for the different bands. Here he is assisted by George, NE2U as he changes feeds back to the 3.4GHz band.

After breakfast at the hotel on Sunday morning, spending a few bucks at the mini-fest, Jim WA3EHD and I drove up to Al's to see the activity. By the time we arrived, they already had 33 QSOs in the log on 3 bands, but none yet on 10GHz. While we were there we watched and heard the station work KL6M on 3.4GHz, with excellent echoes from their station and measuring about 1 dB of moon noise.

After we left, Al reported that they reinstalled the 10GHz feed and by minor readjustment of

George, NE2U assists Al, K2UYH installing a microwave band feed on Al's "Kennedy Dish".

the focal point to the phase center were able to hear their own moon echoes and work another station on that band also.

The next two weekends for the ARRL EME Contest are October 26-27 and November 16-17. Both of those weekends will be for bands 50MHz through 1296MHz. Get ready or try to hook up with another club member to get the EME experience.

Product Review: Rig Expert AA-600 Antenna Analyzer

by John Jaminet W3HMS

The Rig Expert antenna analyzer Model AA -600 covers 100 KHz to 600 MHz. It operates on batteries stand-alone and is highly portable in its own carrying case with strap. I have used it in restaurants with other hams at the table to check the SWR of portable 2 m HT antennas. The antenna owner may not have been pleased with the result but he got a true one, (HI!!) This was also true when the same antenna was checked outside in *rather* free space.

Oh, the caveat....I am not an employee nor boss nor stockholder of the maker located in the Ukraine; I am just a pleased user. FYI, there is also a Model 1000 that goes to 1000 Mhz. and some others besides.

The unit can also feed your PC via a USB port and with the included cable and software (on CD).

Just put in the included batteries and it is ready to go. Its window to the world is an N connector so I carry "N to__" adapters for BNC, PL259 / SO239, and SMA fittings in a sack that also fits in the case with the unit reversed.

For in-shack use, the unit and PC give a much larger on-screen visual. The data at each frequency is viewable by pushing a mouse button. In a typical scenario, I have swept HF dipoles, VHF and UHF beams over the band range, e.g. a 4 MHz span on 2 meters, or 10 meters. The full 600 MHz is the maximum sweep. The result is a graphical display made in a few seconds which displays the SWR curve over the swept range in values up to 10 to 1. Another scale gives the SWR to 100 to 1 and in hundredths, e.g. 1.35 to 1. My 432 Mhz Yagi showed 18 to 1.....it will be

repaired before the January 2014 contest!!

The PC images can be saved for later use.

There is another function that gives the following values: R, X, Z, L, C and RL among others.

The unit is readily available in the USA; I got mine at HRO in VA. The delivered price was \$810 which may compete with planned equipment purchases at many QTHs. I leave the reader full dominion over these factors and related decisions, (HI!!)

The included rechargeable AAAs have good battery life, but I carry an extra set so a test is never aborted. The origin of the instrument's builders QTH is partly attested to by the mostly Cyrillic text on the AAA batteries!!



The unit has a Time Domain Reflectometer function that will tell you of coax issues to within inches if the correct velocity factor is put in the set-up. This is per a good friend who has used this function more than I have.

The User Manual seems a bit better than the often really crummy manuals that come with much ham equipment. I found myself measuring antennas in a very intuitive way and running repeated tests since it is so easy to do so.

Summary: I like my unit and have made many tests with it. After calibration, I have felt confident that the reported results are correct. I have learned that some antennas, both HB and commercial, do not work as well as advertised. Now, if it would only check my antennas through 24 GHz, HI!!

73, John, W3HMS

The Wayback Machine

Gleaned from the pages of
Cheese Bits, September 1963
(Vol. VI Nr. 7)

(Authors comments in *italics*)

- Helen reports of the successful rescue of two miners, trapped 331' underground in Sharpton, PA. Helen and Frankie (W3SAO) were in the area on vacation, They provided some assistance by locating some equipment needed by the rescue team. The E. Pa. SCM, Al Breiner, W3ZRQ handled radio traffic for the drill operator. Other hams assisted, and several radio equipment manufacturers supplied communication gear (*e.g., Shure Brothers, ultra-sensitive mikes to be lowered to the trapped miners*).
- Other highlights of their vacation.
 1. Using a 40' aluminum extension ladder as an easy way to raise their antenna. Mount the rotator and antenna at the top. Have guys attached to bottom and top sections. Raise the ladder retracted. Secure the lower guys. Raise the ladder fully. Secure the lower guys (*Field day or June contest suggestion?*).
 2. Helping to provide communications for the Fireman's parade, and the Centennial parade in Mahanoy City, PA (*Look it up. It's real. Near Quakeake, PA.*)
 3. Helping to direct the marchers to prevent confusion.
- New Products, reported by member W3NSI (Lynn Rowland).
 1. A 6-band

portable receiver (battery-operated, transistorized) now available from Hallicrafters. The unit uses 10-transistors, 1-diode, 1-zenor and 1-thermistor (and you thought transistors were new?). 2. The "B" model of the Clegg Interceptor receiver was announced. Improved features include diodes replacing the rectifier tube (less heat), and a 1-kHz RIT using a varicap diode.

- Two-meter activity report. The band has been hopping. In the last 3-weeks, club member Charley (W3IBH) worked 15 states on 2-meters, with **13 of them from his mobile rig**. These included Georgia, Kentucky and the Carolinas.
- Meeting notes. At the September meeting, it was announced that club dues are being raised from \$5.00 to \$6.00 per year. (*Considering the inflation rate, our current dues are a bargain!*).
- ARRL National Simulated Emergency Test announced for October 5/6, 1963. This will provide all members of RACES and AREC to practice handling emergency traffic. (*Club member George Van Dyke, W3ELI – later W3HK, was the Philadelphia County E.C.*).
- Another nice letter published from SIRAN, the Amateur Radio Club of India. Based on publicity in our Cheese Bits, their club has received a number of other club publications and other Ham related documents. They offer any assistance their members can provide, including sending "Indian

Stamps” to anyone interested. (*Don't remember why I didn't take that offer.*)

- Extracts from an Evening Bulletin article described a tour of the Philadelphia Wireless technical Institute, located in two homes near 16th and Pine Sts. The school was founded in 1908. A shipboard radio operator was staying at the Bellevue-Stratford hotel between ship runs. Several young people asked him to teach them the radio code. Thus started the school! A small museum is housed in the property, and current classes cover all aspects of electronics including TV, transistors, radar and electronic test equipment. (*Youtube has a video uploaded in 2011, showing John Facenda narrating an interesting history of the school. It's still located at 1533 Pine St.*)
- A lengthy (3-page) article entitled “History of the International Morse Code” chronicles a very interesting description of the development of signaling telegraphy. It starts with experiments in 1811, and covers the development of ideas and equipment through modern implementation in teletypewriting machines. An interesting comment states “Although machines are handling all the heavy traffic loads, the good operator with the selective ear, pride in his fist and the ability to do what machines cannot do will always have a place in U.S. Naval Communications. The author was a naval officer and licensed amateur since 1934 (current calls W6EDG and K3RXO). He has copied code at 52 wpm to win first prize at the Naval school in CA.

- June QSO Party. K3IPM, Stan came in No. 1 as the highest scoring single operator in the country, as well as the E. PA section. (*Stan is still going strong*). The club station, W3CCX, was the No 1 Multi-op station in E. PA.

(This issue consisted of ten (10) sheets of legal-size paper. It was printed double-sided, on heavy stock paper. It was typed in double-column format by Helen Brick (editor and xyl of Frankie, W3SAO), and cost 6-cents to mail).

(As in previous editions, many “folksy” comments about members, their families, and activities were included in this Cheese Bits. If interested, visit www.W3CCX.COM and read the full issue posted there).

NOTE: All issues of Cheese Bits, from #1 (April, 1958) to the current edition, are now posted on the Packrat Web site. K3IUV scanned and generated digital copies for the issues from #1 through December, 2000. Ron, W3RJJ, posted these scans, as well as all subsequent and current issues. If you need an issue for a technical reference, it is now within reach. An updated index of Technical content is in process, and will be available shortly.

thirty, de K3IUV



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W1SMS: ARRL Tech Coordinator

Packrat **Steve Simons** W1SMS was appointed Technical Coordinator for a 2 year term by Elizabeth Doane, Connecticut Section Manager. The appointment starts October, 2013.

Congratulations Steve!

Events

For inclusion, please direct event notices to the editor.

VHF Fall Sprint Microwaves Day (902 MHz and up) - Contest October 12, 2013. 7AM-1PM local. See <http://www.svhfs.org/2013fallsprintrulesv1.pdf>
For details

EME 50-1296 MHz Contest—October 26-27, 2013, 50-1296 MHz round 1; November 16-17, 2013, 50-1296 MHz round 2.

MUD Microwave Update Conference—October 18-19, 2013, Space Science Center, Morehead State University, Morehead KY. See <http://www.microwaveupdate.org/> for details.

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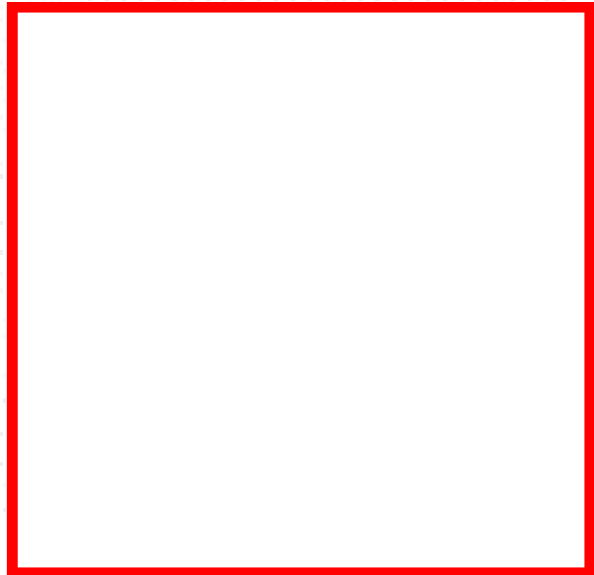
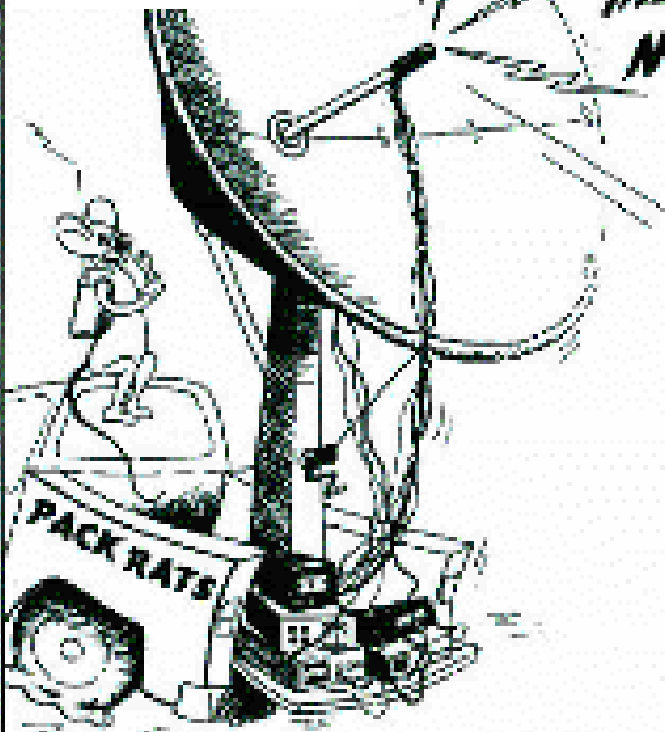
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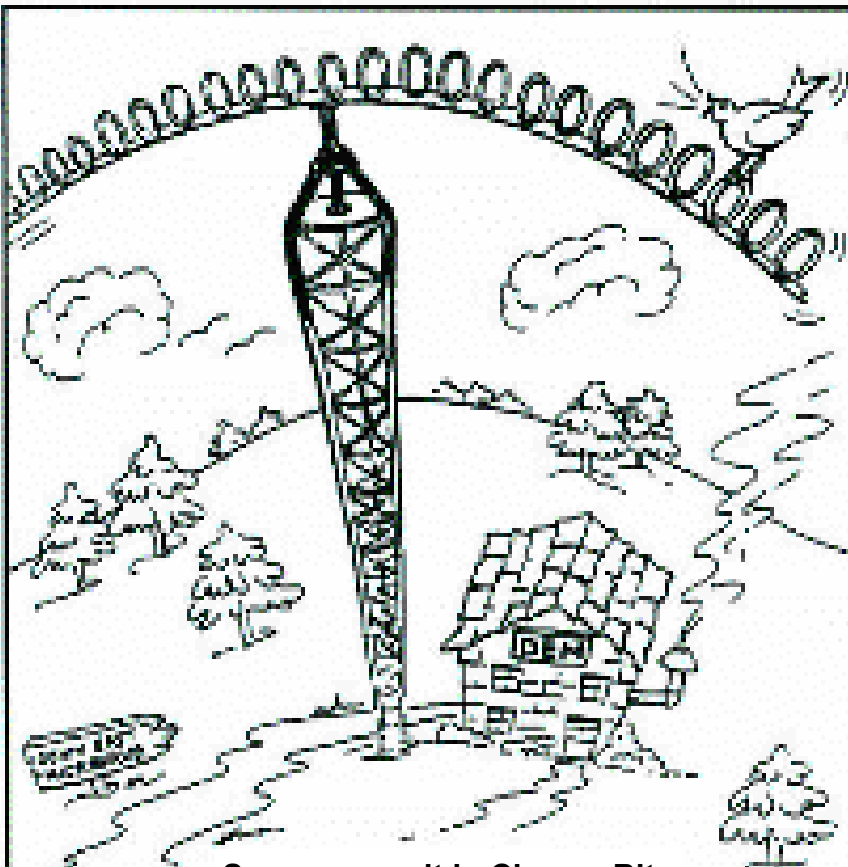
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