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PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

CHEESE BITS



ARNS

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

DECEMBER, 1986

NUMBER 12

THE PREZ SEZ

Those who missed the November meeting missed a chance to look back and see one of the best accomplishments of the club. Elliot, K3JJZ, gave us a good accounting of the trip to South America by the Pack Rats. We did the Ham community a service by putting that continent on EME on 432. I wish I had been around to witness this event in VHF, and I thank Elliot and the others who put the program together.

Believe it or not, when you read this there will be just a few weeks until the January Contest. I have heard the Contest is on Superbowl weekend, so we will have to be on the TVI lookout and make the best use of the time during the game. Maybe the 902 and 2304 operators could run schedules during this time. We will be hearing more about the Contest from our Contest Chairman, Bob, N2SB, in December.

That's all for now. Hope everybody had a good Thanksgiving Holiday and I will see everybody at the meetings in December.

73,

Gary Hitchner

* * *

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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.

EDITOR:

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

PUBLISHER/SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER:

K3GAS, DOC CUTLER
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215-635-1078

PRINTER:

WB2VLA, DAVID POWER
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TYPIST:

WA3TEM, MARSHA LISSAUER

TRUSTEE OF THE CLUB CALL - W3CCX:

WA3AXV, RONALD WHITSEL
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W2EIF, JOSEPH KILGORE
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CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3CL, HARRY B. STEIN

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7:30 PM - 50.125 MHZ
8:00 PM - 144.150 MHZ
8:30 PM - 222.98/224.58 MHZ
8:45 PM - 220.125 MHZ
9:00 PM - 432.110 MHZ
9:30 PM - 1296.1 MHZ

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

By Harry Brown, W3IIT

DECEMBER

- 2 EME Perigee
- 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- 11 Packrat Board of Directors meeting at the QTH of W3IIT at 8:00 P.M.
Call: 584-4846 for directions.
- 13 Predicted peak of the Geminids Meteor shower.
- 17 First airplane flight 1903.
- 18 Packrat General Membership Meeting. Limited to members only due to
secret planning in preparation for the January Contest. Meeting starts
at 8:00 P.M. at the Southampton Free Library.
- 25 Christmas
- 26 Chanukah
- 30 Moon at Perigee

JANUARY

- 10-11 The 40th Annual ARRL VHF Sweepstakes will be held. See December
QST Page 79 for Rules.

* * *

DUES ARE DUE FOR 1987

* * *

TID BITS

Sunspot No. for September 1986 = 35.7. Smoothed No. for April 1986 = 13.8/

Condolences to Al Whiting, K3BRS on the recent loss to his family.

Surprised to hear Gary Dallas, W4LYHO, checking in to the 2 meter net on Monday Nov. 10th.

Phil, WA3NUF back from a business trip to Japan. Did you bring back some goodies?

N3CX, Dave Hackford reports an interesting repeater operating out of Lancaster, Pa. 222.84/
224.44 - Ron, KA3CNP - Owner.

N2SB, Contest Chairman reminds us that there will be an award again for the most improved station.

Hope that Janice is over her morning sickness - keep us advised, Rick.

Congratulations once again to W2HX, BB Wentzel on his entry as a Fellow in the Radio Club of America at the November meeting. A most deserving honor.

Did you send in your Contest Questionnaire to your Team Captain?

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Harry E. Seeta, W3CL
2087 Parkdale Ave.
Glenside, Pa. 19038

Dear Harry:

It was great to talk to you over the Hamarama weekend. Wish we had had more time. It's sure great to see everyone and quite a shock to be down with lots of people, not to mention HAMS, after being up here in the "slow lane".

After we left Pennsylvania, Sandy and I headed down to the Delaware shore for a little R&R. Managed to get a 902 Mhz and a 2304 Mhz station on and work some of the guys up in NJ and PA on those two bands from "Rare" FM28. Stations worked were WB2NPE and N3CX on both bands as well as AA2Z in CT on 902. All this with indoor antennas! Two days later we went off to Chincoteague island, VA. and set up the portable setup from the causeway going across to the island. Again conditions were super and we managed to work WB2NPE, N3CX and AA2Z on 902 plus N3CX, WB2NPE and WA3AXV on 2304 Mhz from even rarer FM27. Signals were peaking well over s9 on 902 and s5-7 on 2.3 Ghz!! Certainly the band was open even further down the coast but it was getting dark and...next time for sure! The 2304 rig I was using was the new LMW Electronics unit that I had for show at the conference and Hamarama. Quite a nice little transverter package putting out almost 2 watts linear on Xmit and nice and stable.

Not resigned to quit there, I took the portable setup on 902 Mhz up to FN55 and down to FN53 last week for some of the local fellows. Best CX was once again AA2Z at a distance of about 300 miles from the FN55 location. Had to make the contact on aircraft scatter but it was pretty easy when what must have been a 747 flying out of Boston got between us and signals were s5 for 30 or 40 seconds! VERY interesting band this 902 Mhz allocation.

Not doing much operating from home these days, but plan to have some better antennas on the bands by the January Contest so look for me then! When you're ready for your 902 and 1296 antennas just let me know. I have quite a stock now and very little is happening to deplete it with Winter coming on, hi.

73,

Bill, W3HQT

* * *

432 ACTIVITY AWARDS

I think that 432 can become an every night band with a little push. I hope that the awards that I am sponsoring will do the trick. Please publish in your newsletter and elicit support from members. Activity breeds activity. Once 432 reaches the status of 144 Mhz, it will be much easier to get activity on the higher frequencies.

Tnx, and 73,

Art Holmes

PURPOSE: PROMOTE 432 ACTIVITY EACH NIGHT

Ground Rules: 432 SSB or CW QSOS only. Start 12/1/86. No contest QSOS counted. No net QSOS Counted. QSY off the calling frequency. Copy of log for verification Date, Call, Grid. QSO Award: 50 QSOS per month. Separate award each calendar month. Station Award: Work 100 different stations. No time period. Update for 200, 300 Etc. QSO*Grid Award: #QSOS * Unique Grids = 1000 IE: 50 QSOS * 20 Grids. Separate award each month. Sponsor: Art, WA2TIF 11 Kerr Rd., Rhinebeck, NY 12572 (FN31). Send log data and business size SASE for awards.

* * *

WANTED: Hardline & connectors; 1296 pwr amp; pre-amp (lo-noise fig.); relays, grounding rod, anchor rods with equalizing plates (Rohn GAC-25).

CONTACT: Hank, K2GAL, Box 178, Somers Point Road, Mays Landing, N.J. 08330
Phone: 609-927-6370

GIVE AWAY DISHES TO PACK-RAT MEMBERS -
4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15 ft. DIAMETER.

CONTACT: Rick, WB2NPE

FOR SALE: HO trains & accessories.
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CONTACT: Doc, K3GAS
Phone: 215-635-1078

FOR SALE: Microwave module xverter - 28-144 Mhz \$135. Kenwood TR8400 - 440-450 Mhz FM \$200; Ringo Ranger II - ARX 450B \$25.00; Robot 800C/Girch Monitor/Printer \$350.

CONTACT: Bill, WB3LGO
Phone: 215-885-3595 (evenings)

FOR SALE: 1975 Volkswagen BEETLE - Orange
Runs good but needs a little body work - Best offer.

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Phone: 215 - 635 - 1078

FOR SALE: HyGain - 3 el 2 mtr. beam 12 ft. boom, 12DB gain, very good cond. \$20.

E.F. Johnson 2 mtr. FM rig (10 W.) Solid state, mic & pwr sply; xtals for 146.16/146.76 rptr & 146.52 simplex. Can be used as mobile unit - vy good cond. \$25.

CONTACT: W3GXB, Robert G. Fox
1776 Street Road
Southampton, Pa. 18966
Phone: 215-322-6248

FOR SALE: Model 200 portable computer with built-in modem, large LCD screen plus additional RAM. Includes cassette recorder and additional instruction book plus Rtty. software \$435. Kantronics Packet Unit \$150.

CONTACT: KF3D, Sandy Kernosh
Phone: 215-829-3558 (work)
215-592-0254 (home)

FOR SALE: Brand new microwave module 220 transverter 50 Mhz IF-15W. repeater model \$230. Brand new KLM 14 el. 220 Yagi \$50. 12 El. homebrew 220 Yagi \$15. Four 21 el. 70 cm. Yagis w/H-frame & pwr. divider (needs repairs) \$125. HD-73 rotator \$50. 40 ft. of #6 Rohn tower w/hinge base, rotator plate & house bracket \$45. 7W 1296 amp. kit \$35. 5 ft. enclose rack & K.W. pwr. sply \$50. 6M Barker & Williamson K.W. low pass filter \$25. Will sell transverter & both antennas at package price.

CONTACT: Mike, N3BBI
Phone: 215-676-5891 9AM to 4PM
717-325-3580 after 6 PM

* * *

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Clegg Thor 6, amplifier version inc'l P.S. no manual \$75. Hammurlund HQ-170A, ham band receiver inc'l clock/timer, no manual \$200. Clegg FM-DX, 2 meter xcvr \$195. no manual. Kenwood TS-520S w/CW filter \$425. KDK 2030 2 meter xcvr \$215. Johnson 6 n 2 meter awarded to first gentleman with \$35. (or lady). Collins:75A2 rcvr \$250. Hammurlund HQ-110A \$115. Yaesu FR101S rcvr with 2&6 meter convtrs, \$299. Drake "C-Line" \$500. TenTec Argosy w/N.B., xtal calib \$400. Drake AK-75 (new) never used, dipole ant. \$35. 80-10 meters. Viking Valliant II \$175.

CONTACT: Tony, K3UKW
Phone: 215-271-8898 CALL!!!

* * *

LOOP YAGIS: 902 Mhz and 1296 Mhz \$77 kit, \$93 assembled and tested. 2304 Mhz \$67 kit and \$80 assembled. Also, 2 and 4 way power dividers and stacking frames. LINEAR EMPLIFIERS: 1296 10W in 35 watts out \$295, 1W in 18W out \$245. Call for special Pack Rat discounts and prices on complete arrays! New!!!! Microwave Transverters and preamps by LMW ELECTRONICS. 2304 Mhz deluxe transverter Model 2304 TRV2D; 144 Mhz I.F. Power out 2 watts, includes separate GaAs FET preamp, N.F. 1 dB and built in T/R sequencing circuit, relative output meter and built in I.F. Attenuator to match inputs from 100mW to 10 watts. Price complete \$569. 1296 Mhz deluxe transverter, model 1296TRV6D similar to 2304 unit 6-7 watts out, .7dB N.F. Price: \$489. Stripped down versions available at lower cost also available in kit form. 902 Mhz version coming soon. Universal Local Oscillator Kit Model ULO. Multiple outputs in 1 to 1.2GHz range depending on xtal. \$33.75 less xtal. Write for complete catalog. DOWN EAST MICROWAVE, Bill Olson, W3HQT, Box 1655A, RFD#1, Bernham, ME 04922. Phone: 207-948-3741.

CONTEST NOTICE

FN01: This rare grid-square will be active during the January VHF Contest by W1XX/3 and crew. We will be located on the eastern line of the grid at an elevation of 2000 feet. Operation will be on all bands between 50-1296 Mhz including 903 Mhz FM/CW/SSB. We will be delighted to provide this grid-square to all members of the PACK RATS on any mode! Please be on the lookout for us and pass the word.

* * *

NOVA SCOTIA ON A DX-VACATION

By Bob Fox, W3GXB

On October 3,4,5,6 my XYL (Ruth) and I took a vacation trip to Nova Scotia. On board the station wagon was an ICOM 271 H (100W) and a collapsible 8 element 2 meter antenna. Since we were traveling through grid squares FN63,73,74, I thought I'd give it a shot and hopefully provide some contacts to those looking to log these grid squares. My first attempt was from a hilltop near Digby, N.S. in FN 64 and I had zero response. My next attempt was in Liverpool in FN 73; however, pouring rain and lack of high ground produced nil.

There are many FM repeaters in Nova Scotia, yet I heard very few conversations and my calls produced very few responses. We finally approached Yarmouth, Nova Scotia in FN 63 and we were able to contact VE1UT through another ham we contacted on a repeater. Bernie got on the air and talked to W1GRW near Boston and explained my dilemma to those hams looking for me in those rare grid squares.

The next evening Ruth and I were invited over to Bernie's (VE1UT) QTH and I was able to see his shack with the usual assortment of RF gear. We also met his son VE1BJE, and had a very enjoyable evening with Bernie, Mitch and Mitch's XYL (Linda).

The trip did not net me the contacts I had hoped for, however, we'll go back again at a time when the probability of good propagation exists. Nova Scotia is a beautiful place and my XYL (Ruth) and I appreciated the laid-back atmosphere and very nice people we met. We also received \$1.34 for the U.S. Dollar as the exchange rate.

According to Bernie (VE1UT), there are only about 40 hams in Nova Scotia and only a handful are into UHF-VHF sideband.

We enjoyed our trip and I'm glad that we were able to meet VE1UT - a call that is known to quite a few members of the PACKRATS.

I have some pictures of VE1UT's shack as well as Bernie, Mitch, his son, and Mitch's wife Linda.

* * *

VOTED TO MEMBERSHIP NOVEMBER 20, 1986 MEETING

WB3KRW - Stephen Dallas XYL-Janette
Box 289, Colonial Park
Doylestown, Pa. 18901
215-348-2408

VISITORS-NOVEMBER 20, 1986 MEETING





WB3KRW - Steve - Doylestown, Pa.
W3AJS - Ed - Oreland, Pa.

* * *

TID BITS CONTINUED

The Delaware Valley Council of Radio Clubs received some good PR for Ham Radio when volunteers participated in the Phila. Thanksgiving Parade under the auspices of Channel Six of Phila. Edith, W3AAU and Fred, WB3FFW coordinated the Ham Communications.

-DUES ARE DUE FOR 1987-

<p>Simply FB HOLIDAYS</p> <p>(215) 766-6173 (215) 372-1448 (215) 342-3837</p> <p>COMPLI-SIMPLE COMPUTER APPLICATIONS FOR SMALL BUSINESS</p> <p>ELLIOTT F. WEISMAN Consultant</p> <p>P.O. BOX 7151 WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19803</p>	<p>HOLIDAY GREETINGS DE SYLVIA + HARRY W3CL</p>	 <p>Happy Holidays MARSHA (WASTEM) FRED JOSHUA + REBECCA</p>	<p>HAPPY HOLIDAYS DE W3CU Janice</p>	<p>HAPPY HOLIDAYS! DEAC W3ATF</p>	<p>SEASONS GREETINGS! ED W3AJS</p>
<p>HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM JACK - W2AXU FLORENCE - W2WYE S</p>	<p>Merry Christmas from Doris + Jennifer</p>	<p>Happy Holidays DAVE - W32VLA NANCY - N2AII + FAMILY</p>	<p>SEASONS GREETINGS BERT W3TNP ERLIE W3ICKN.</p>	<p>HAPPY HOLIDAYS DAVE W3JUF BARB DAVE JR RYAN</p> 	<p>Merry Christmas From WB2RVX - Mike KARNYF - Janet + Dan, Kim, Kathie, Karen, Kristin</p>
<p>SEASONS GREETINGS K3BPP + FAMILY</p> 	<p>The Jenkins send Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season TOM + BETTY K3VIT</p>	<p>SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE FAZIO'S GEORGE W33IGR KATHY W33LTH GEORGE JR JOEY</p>	<p>SEASONS GREETINGS FROM THE WARD'S JIM W3AAJ PAT DM 12 SCOTT PETE</p>	<p>Happy Holidays Dick & Janice Comly N3MOG N3CAF</p>	<p>MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR 903-2304-etc. FROM RICK W32UPE JANICE - RICHARD - MARK + ??</p>
<p>SEASONS GREETINGS EL K3JJZ + LOARRING</p>	<p>Seasons Greetings Bill + Mall Banner W3KYM</p>	<p>HAPPY HOLIDAYS W3IND</p>	<p>XMAS GREETINGS DE JANE W33DCK DAVE W3ED JILL NANLIE SCOTT MARK ES HAPPY NEW YEAR</p>	<p>SEASONS GREETINGS LORETTA CUTLER K3GAS</p> 	<p>Christmas Greetings From Bob W3GX8 XK Ath</p>
<p>Best of the Season - Bert (K3IUUV) + Harriet</p>	<p>Seasons Greetings From Ralph, Lynda, Dawn + Denice W3F0F</p>	<p>HOLIDAY GREETINGS THE CHANCELLOR + GORDON K3VYG</p>	<p>HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE MILLERS OF TOMS RIVER, NJ JAY - KS2T</p>	<p>JOE + SUSIE W3EIF SEND HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO ONE + ALL</p>	<p>Seasons Greetings Dit W33DNI</p>
<p>HAPPY HOLIDAYS JOHN and BARBARA K3KTY From Florida</p>	<p>Happy Holidays from The Pattersons Rich, Jorge + Kaye K3ACR</p>	<p>HOLIDAY GREETINGS de GRACIE - W3BQJ es GEORGE - W3HK</p>	<p>Seasons Greetings Peggy Cohen S</p>	<p>XMAS GREETINGS LYN W3NSI + Sally</p>	<p>Seasons Greetings From Helen Brick "Mother Rat"</p>

ARRL Bulletin 84 from ARRL Headquarters Newington, CT October 24, 1986
To all Radio Amateurs

The Electronic Communication privacy Act of 1986, most recently known as HR 4952, was signed into law by President Reagan on October 21. It is now known as public law 99-508. Meanwhile, the Senate report number 541 which explains the bill is at the printer. Requests for copies may be filed through the offices of senators and representatives. Additional information will be in the January issue of QST.

ARRL Bulletin 90 from ARRL Headquarters Newington CT November 13, 1986
to all Radio Amateurs

Acting in Docket 85-196, the FCC has announced the effective date in which volunteer examiner coordinators can maintain the question pools for each examination element. The effective date is December 31, 1986. This FCC action is contrary to the ARRL position, which had urged the FCC to continue to maintain the question pools to assure a single, high quality pool of questions. For more details, plus a complete listing of the new rule changes, see the happenings column of October QST.

* * *

Last minute news:

Lyn, W3NSI and Sally, returned recently from their trip to the South, Key West etc. After the Thanks giving holiday, they took off for the far West. Will you be home for the January VHF SS, Lyn?

George, WB3IND and Delores back from the shore. It was nice to see you at the November meeting. Glad you were able to have Bill, W3KM, one of our OT'ers come out with you.

K3LOM, Harry now back in full operation once again on three bands with great signals.

KS2T, Jay feeling better and back as net control for the low end 220 MHz net on Monday nites. Has been hitting the AC casinos once a week lately and says he won a few bucks to spend on Ham Radio!

W3GXB, Bob Fox working hard to get 432. Has an excellent signal on the low end 220 MHz. Tnx for your DX-Vacation article elsewhere in this issue.

The K3VYG tower has been greased to discourage the Raccoon invasion to the attic. Tnx to K3ACR.

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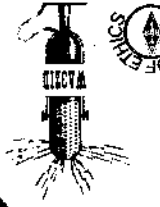
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