

# PACK RATS'



## PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

# CHEESE BITS



ARNS

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PA.  
50.2, 145.2, 432.03, 1296.03, Repeater - WR3ACD - 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

VOLUME XIX

JUNE 1977

NUMBER 6

### THE PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

This is my 12th and last message as President of the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club and would like to thank everyone for making my term so enjoyable and hope that I have added to the growth and lore of the Pack-Rats. Many, many events have occurred with which you are well familiar and I do have the pride and pleasure of being associated with them as "El Presidente".

Now, there are two issues I would like to highlight before losing my platform. Our club is for and with each member. I know you all have thoughts and ideas - and also gripes about this and that. As is mentioned in every issue of this paper - the directors meetings are open to all members to attend. A new policy will be started wherein two club members will be especially invited to attend to see how projects are developed; to see how events are run and also to get more of you into the doings rather than the sittings of the clubs activities...

Issue Number Two - It is slowly spreading East - from the West Coast, and all of us who use and enjoy Two Meter FM will be effected. Sears, Montgomery Ward and others are selling Two Meter FM Rigs over the counter to just about anyone with the bucks and desire to purchase. This marketing will soon spread to just about every corner drug store - just as CB sets are peddled today. It is not too hard to draw the picture of what will be happening to the amateur frequencies and on the air conduct.

As has been proposed in several other club newspapers throughout the country - NO, repeat, NO Amateur transmitter should be sold unless a valid Amateur license is shown. I am not up on the fine points of the law books, but am wondering out loud if such sales to unauthorized persons falls with the act of contributing to a felony - Being where you don't belong... Maybe some of our ham lawyers could step forward and research this point for future use.

73, Lee

\* \* \*

Visitors at the May 19th, 1977 Meeting --

WA3HGX/2, Vince Quaresima, Camden, N.J.

WA3WAS, Steve Simons, Phila., Pa.

WA3ZXY, Bob, Norristown, Pa.

W3NWS, Ed, Norristown, Pa.

WB2QQQ, Rick, Wayne, N.J.

K2KJI, Gene, Cedar Grove, N.J.

WB3EFO, Ed Lee, Huntingdon Valley, Pa.

WA3VGT, Joe Frezza, Horsham, Pa.

WA3IWT, Rich Prim, Feasterville, Pa.

XYL/W1HDQ, Leitha Tilton, Canton, Ct.

W1HDQ, Ed Tilton, Canton, Ct.

W3SW, Connie Mac, Bethesda, Md.

WA2WYE, Florence Power, Trenton, N.J.

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DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

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\*\*\*\*\*

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OFFICERS: 1976 - 1977

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VICE-PRES: W3HMU, Tony Souza  
COR. SECY: WA3NGK, Harry Brown  
REC. SECY: WA3NFV, Danny Mitten  
TREASURER: K3GAS, Doc Cutler

DIRECTORS:

WA3AXV, Ron Whitsel (Ex-Officio)  
K3IGX, Richard Boyle (2 years)  
K3JJZ, Elliott Weisman (2 years)  
W3HQT, William Olsen (1 year)  
W3YXF, Joseph Rushton (1 year)

\*\*\*\*\*

MONDAY NIGHT NETS:

<u>MONDAY NIGHT NETS:</u>		<u>NET CONTROL</u>
145.2 MHZ	7:30 PM	W2EIF
50.2 MHZ	8:30 PM	W3CL
221.4/224.58 MHZ	9:00 PM	K3GAS
432.03 MHZ	9:30 PM	K3IUU
1296.3 MHZ	10:00 PM	W2EIF

FRIDAY NIGHT ATV NET:

<u>FRIDAY NIGHT ATV NET:</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>
439.25 MHZ	7:00 PM
	WA3AXV

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS  
Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

JUNE

Sixth month of the year from the Latin Junius - of the Junii, a Roman gens

- 2 The Telephone secret discovered. Invented 1875. We thought we saw Don Ameche do it on TV the other nite. Just imagine what the world would be like without the phone. Maybe we could take an uninterrupted bath or shower just for once....
- 3-5 National ARRL Convention - Toronto, Canada
- 4 Deborah Hospital Foundation Flea Market, Ewing High School, Trenton, New Jersey
- 5 The Perkiomen Valley ARC Hamfest - Perkiomenville Sales Ground, Pa. Directions - West on Rt. 63 to end (Green Lane) - then left (south) on Route 29 about 2 miles. A new first time hamfest and your attendance would be appreciated. Talk-in 28/88 and .52
- 5 Manassa, Virginia Hamfest - Prince William County Fairgrounds. Talk-in 37/97 and .52. A very large and interesting hamfest as we have been to this one before. About a 3 1/2 hour drive from Phila. Ideal for overnite camping and sightseeing of Civil War battle-ground areas...
- 9 Board of Directors Meeting - QTH - WA3AXV, Ron Whitsel, 209 Frog Hollow Road, Churchville, Pa. If lost call 355-5730. This is an open directors meeting and if you want to attend and see what makes things tick - you are invited. Open to all club members; maybe you have some new ideas or thoughts that should be offered. Come on out..
- 11 Delaware Valley Chapter QCWA dinner meeting 7 P.M., Buck Hotel, Feasterville, Pa.
- 11-12 ARRL VHF QSO Party, Hilltown, Pa. W3HQT, Bill Olsen Chairman. Help and helpers are needed from Friday afternoon on. Put it in your plans to come on out and get into the contest and associated affairs...
- 13 PARA- GE Space Center, Cafeteria, Valley Forge, Pa. 8 PM.
- 14 Flag Day
- 16 General Club Meeting, Southampton Free Library, Street Road, Southampton, Pa. 8 P.M. Open meeting to all, June Contest Crying Towel, Election of Officers for 1977-78 year. The Frankie Silent Auction, The Mario Raffle, Refreshments.
- 18-19 Atlanta Georgia Hamfestival and Georgia ARRL Convention, Atlanta Marriott Hotel.
- 19 Penn Wireless ARA Picnic
- 19 FATHERS DAY. A gentle hint to leave those catalogues open to the right page and marked accordingly..
- 23 Warrington Area Repeater Association 1st Annual Meeting, 8 PM. Warrington Fire House, Street and Easton Roads.
- 25-26 ARRL Field Day...

FLASH!!! The Gaithersburg Hamfest is on once again and will be at the usual place.

AUGUST 14: FAMILY DAY AND PICNIC, Ft. Washington State Park, Flourtown, Pa.

\* \* \*

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP: WA3MCK, Howard Weinstein, 7620 Lycoming Ave., Phila., Pa. 19126  
215-635-3817 (Presently attached to the USS Pargo-Submarine)

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. VHF Power Amps: G.R. Stephens Co. is producing a series of four high power amplifiers for use on 50, 144, 220 and 432 Mhz. With 10 watts drive applied, the 50 Mhz unit will put out 350 watts. As frequency increases, output drops a bit so that at 432 Mhz the output will be 270 watts. Units are compact 15" x 15" x 6" and the weight is listed as 42 pounds. Power supply is built in. Higher output, up to 600 watts is possible as drive is increased to 20-25 watts. A large front panel meter is used to measure H.V., Grid current, Plate current, and Output. Unit will operate on all modes, inc. ATV. Alien Communications N.E. P.O. Box 285, Normandy Beach, N.J. 08739

2. Frequency Counter 520 Mhz: The Pagel Co. has a new #7 counter good for up to 520 Mhz. A large seven digit readout is used on the model 7 which can be operated from 12 VDC or AC line. Sensitivity is rated at 10-20 Millivolts over the entire range. This about 20 times more sensitive than the early model 5 unit. A thru-line input allows feeding a transmitter in the front panel connector and out the back to either a dummy load or a feed line. Up to 100 watts can be fed thru the unit with this set up. In use, the display lights up only when a signal is being fed into the counter, except in the case when the "hold" feature is used. This allows the operator to freeze the last reading taken, where it will continue on display until switched out of use. The time base is crystal controlled and rated at .0001% stability, which at 220 Mhz should mean 2.2 Khz which is a lot closer than one can get with a DGO. Pagel Electronics, 6742C Tampa Ave., Reseda Cal. 91335

\* \* \*

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Jo, W2EIF

The 50 Mhz band opened on schedule during the first week of May. The date is very consistant. It has nothing to do with the sun spot cycle, although some think that the Es is a little better during low part of the sun spot cycle.

The intensity of the Es apparently increases as we near the June 21st date and as the intensity builds up we should look for Es openings on 2 meters. A good time to look for 2 meter Es is during the 2 week periods preceeding and following June 21st.

One of the clues to look for is very short skip on 6 meters. When you note 6 meter signals as close as 300-400 miles (Not Tropo) then go to 2 meters and try some CQ's. You may be surprised at what comes back.

Good luck and don't forget to get on the bands during the June QSO Party June 11 and 12. The club needs your contact.

NOTE: VE2YU, Larry Dobby, 157 Sedgefield, Pt. Clair, Quebec. Looking for skeds from 6 meter to 1296 Mhz for the June VHF QSO Party the 11th and 12th.

\* \* \*

NOTE: From the ARRL Directors Letter No. 1684 of May 20, 1977 talks about a big technical breakthrough in transmitting voice in a very narrow bandwidth.

"In brief, the system processes a voice signal of, say, 3000 hertz bandwidth, enabling it to be transmitted in a bandwidth approaching 1230 hertz. It is done entirely at audio, and for existing transceivers there would be one processor connected in series with the microphone lead and another in series with the speaker lead. As the key integrated circuit gets into quantity production, it is expected that the unit cost of the processor will drop to less than \$25.00.

The advantage of such a system are obvious -- the doubling of the number of available voice channels at a cost which is absurdly low compared with the cost of single-sideband when it was first introduced. The demonstrations that we heard here indicated that the voice quality of the recovered signal is excellent. On-the-air tests are now taking place, and if this works as well in real-life as it seems to in the lab, and if it catches on with amateurs, we may well see another revolution in amateur practice.

The inventor of this system is Dr. Richard Harris, assistant professor of electrical engineering at the University of the Pacific; co-developer is J.F. Cleveland, WB6CZX, while Tom Lott, VE2AGF/W6, is in charge of the development of marketing and finance."

\* \* \*

Add to NOMINATION OF OFFICERS on page 7

Treasurer - K3CAS, Doc Cutler.

"DAYTON HAMVENTION, 1977"

By Bill Murphy, K3ZSG

The 1977 Dayton Hamvention was held on April 29 thru May 1. Unlike last year, unusually good weather prevailed. Bright sunny days with temperatures in the mid seventies made the flea market a bonanza for all.

Attendance records were broken again this year with over 17,000 having formally registered. For someone who has never attended the Hamvention, it has much to offer.

First, you get a chance to meet amateurs from all over the country, many of whom you have undoubtedly had QSO's with over the years.

Secondly, through the technical programs, you get an opportunity to expand your knowledge in the area of your hobby that you like best. The technical sessions; especially those on VHF, have been excellent over the past several years.

Finally, for those of you who just want to browse around, there are all types of new gear on display, and hundreds of manufacturers just waiting to find a new home for it.

One little extra curricular activity is the night life. Don't let anyone tell you hams can't have a good time. I understand that the elevators at the Billmoor Towers became jammed at a rather early hour when an excessive number of merry-makers tried to set a new world record for H.T.'s in a confined space. Can you imagine the QRM?

Back to the flea market again. The size this year was just mind-boggling. It covered an estimated 20 acres, with over half of it on Saturday outside the fenced in area.

As some of you may already know, I will be leaving the Philadelphia area some time in late June. My new QTH will be Dodge City, Kansas. As a result of this impending move, I took a large amount of equipment out to Dayton to sell. It was the usual kind of stuff that accumulates around the shack over a period of years.

So my trip had been planned well in advance. A few days before I was to leave for Dayton, I was contacted by K3JJZ. Elliott wanted to know if I would be able to accept an award for the Club and the HK1TL "Moon Bounce Team". I said I would be happy to do so.

The presentation of the "Dayton Special Event Award" was made at a banquet held Saturday evening before approximately 2,000 people. The following is a Draft of the acceptance speech I made:

"It gives me great pleasure to accept the Dayton Special Event Award on behalf of the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club and the HK1TL Moon Bounce Team. I would not have the privilege of accepting this award this evening if it weren't for the fact that at this very moment in the Philadelphia area, the Pack Rats are holding their annual Banquet. Included in their annual Banquet this year are many presentations that relate to the Moon Bounce Expedition and its success. So you see, this evening, we of the Pack Rats are honoring the Moon Bounce team back home in addition to receiving this honor here tonight. I have been instructed to convey the deepest appreciation from the Moon Bounce group and convey to you their deepest regrets, all 7 of them, that they could not be here tonight. However, I guarantee you that were it not for the conflicts in the Pack Rat Banquet and the Dayton Banquet being on the same evening, you would have had the whole team here. Many thanks to the committee and this award will be displayed in a prominent place in our trophy case. Thank you very much"

After receiving the award, I went on a cross country trip to Dodge City and Salt Lake City. On Saturday May 6th, I presented it to W3HMU, W3HQT and K3BPP at the "East Coast V.H.F. Conference" in Durham, N.H.; where it was put on display for all to see.

73 and hopefully I will soon be working all of you from Kansas.

\* \* \*

TID BITS

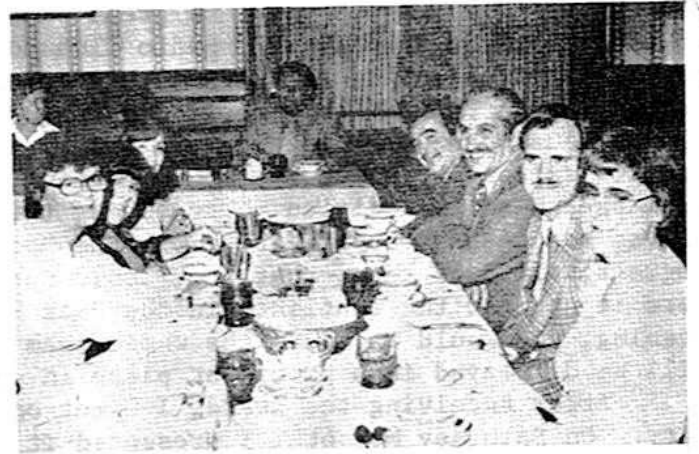
Congratulations to the Huntzingers, Mary and Dick (W3FQD) on becoming grandparents recently.

Add to the list of BARCC Contributors - The Delmont Radio Club. Chairman, W3ZD says thanks.

Roberto Aguilar and XYL, cousins of Bolmar, WB3AOP visited with the Pack-Rats on Ladies Nite.

Congratulations to the John Tates (K3KTY). Their daughter Barbara Ann graduated with high honors from Beaver College.

Congratulations to Doc, K3GAS on his election to the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia County Dental Society.





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K3MKM

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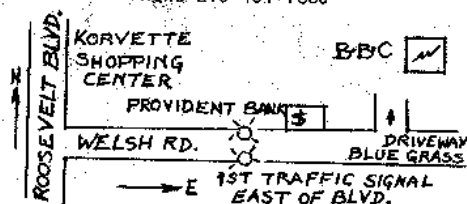
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Heath Seneca 286 mtr. xmt. \$35. Manuals for all.  
**CONTACT:** John Wolf, W3IMU, 965 Buck Rd. Holland, Pa. 18868. Phone: 215-968-4222

**FOR SALE:** Swan 2300 W/117KC \$315. Clegg Mark II 22'er AM \$95. Regency Monitorradio Model MR33D, 30-50 Mhz MM \$65. Heath Power Converter MF-10 (6 or 12 VDC to 117 VAC 60 cycles) \$20. Keyer Ky-7/FRT converts Audio to Xmt keying \$45.

**CONTACT:** K2EWW, Rich Subin, 711 Shore Rd. Northfield, N.J. 08225 Phone: 609-646-7388

**FOR SALE:** Navy ART-13 complete w/Power supply. Both units built by Collins Radio. Includes the 2 hard to get connector cables between the xmt. and pwr supply. Remote control functions for complete operation and the selection of 12 preset frequencies from the broadcast band to 18 Mhz. VFO control or "autotune" for 500 watts input.

**CONTACT:** Carl Croce, K3DLS, Phone: 215-424-6884

**FOR SALE:** Clegg Jess Transmitter, 6 and 2 meters AM/CW - 100W. input. asking \$150

**CONTACT:** Mario DeLuca, W3ELX, Phone: 215-343-6818

\* \* \*

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of officers for the 1977-78 year:  
President - Tony Souza, W3HMU  
Vice-President - William Olson, W3HQT  
Secretary - Harry Brown, W3IIT

Rec. Secretary - Daniel Hittson, W4YMPV  
Director (3 yr. term) Randy Bynum, W62SEZ  
Director (2 yr. term) Dick Pierce, K3MNV

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the June 16th regular meeting when an action will be had.

\* \* \*

Reports have been received from the Western States that truckers are buying Sears Roebuck Co. Amateur 2 meter gear and moving from CB Channel 42 to 146.58. Monitoring in the Denver, Colo. area turned up 75 suspicious calls. All 2 meter users are advised to keep alert and anything suspicious should be immediately reported to local FCC officer. Phone: 315-597-4410 in Phila.



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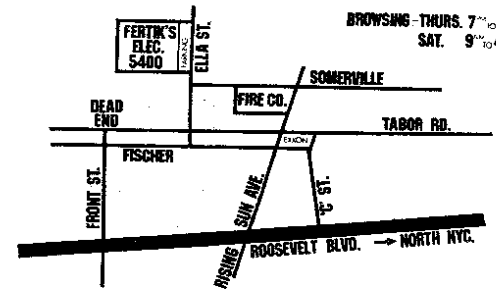


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—Guru Maharaj Ji

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EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE - By Tony, W3HMU

The Third Annual Eastern VHF/UHF Conference was held May 7 and 8, 1977 at the New England Center of the University of N.H. at Durham, N.H. This very popular event attracted 100 enthusiasts of the upper frequency spectrum of amateur radio. Although predominantly attended by the New England and Mid-Atlantic gang, Texas, Missouri, Florida and the VE1 area were represented. The technical sessions were well paced with plenty of time available for audience interaction and many good question and answer periods ensued. Mel Wilson, W2BOC elaborated on his observations of 6 meter and 2 meter sporadic E presented last year giving us all a greater insight into this exciting VHF propagation phenomenon. Joe Reisert, W1JR reported the uncovering of some very useful yagi antenna design tables long lost at NBS. Walt Bohlman, K3BPP delivered the results of his investigations into proper stacking distance for multi-element arrays. Dana Achley, W1CF and his Microwave Associates crew explained the features and use of their new 10 GHz Gunplexers complete with a line demonstration.

After a sumptuous Saturday evening meal, typical of the good food at the New England Center, the Pack Rats (Tony, W3HMU; Walt, K3BPP and Bill, W3HQT) enthralled the packed house with the trials and tribulations of the "HK1TL Story". After which the Pack Rat South American EME Expedition team were presented the Ham Radio Magazine Award for outstanding contributions to the EME art.

Rick, K1LOG had done his usual find job of prize gathering and few if any went home without a valuable door prize. The evening continued with noise figure measurements and bull sessions well into the wee hours.

Sundays agenda included "converter circuits for 1296 Mhz and up" by Paul Wade, WA2ZZF; "Meteor Scatter Propagation" by Walt Bain, W4LTU and "Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI)" by Dr. Tom Clark, WA3LND.

The consensus of opinion was that the U.N.H. location suited the majority present and the 4th Annual Eastern VHF/UHF Conference (1978) will return to Durham, N.H. This splendidly organized affair has become the top VHF affair on the East Coast, thanks to the hard work of the Chairman, W1JR and his small hard working staff of W1HR, W1SL and K1LOG.

\* \* \*

TID BITS

Thanks to Jo, W2EIF for his fb engraving of award certificates.

Congratulations and best wishes to Ed Tilton, W1HDQ and his bride Leitha (Phillips).

Betty, XYL WA3HIT did a beautiful translation of Bolmar's thank you speech from Spanish to English at Ladies Nite.

The following received trophies on Ladies Nite for outstanding club performance: WA3AXV, Ron Whitsel, hi-scorer. Jan. VHF SS. K3BPP, Walt Bohlman, Mario Award for Technical Excellence K3JJZ, K3BPP, W3HMU, W3HQT, WA3NFV, WB3AOP, WB3AFY and WA3JUF - medallions for their efforts on the Moonbounce Expedition. (We are holding medallions for W3KKN, W3TNP and W3CXU when we next see them) W3CL, Harry received a fine indoor/outdoor Thermometer and humidity indicator for being an obedient Pack-Rat.

We are glad to know that Susie XYL, Jo, W2EIF is recuperating at the J.F.K. Memorial Hospital, Laurel Rd., Stratford, N.J. 08084 (Rm. 260)

W2GGB, Len Ciucci who was hospitalized recently is now home and doing fine.

Twenty Pack-Rats and guests were at the "meet the speaker" dinner at the Buck Hotel on ARRL NITE May 19, 1977 to greet Ed Tilton, W1HDQ and his bride, Leitha. A good crowd turned out for the meeting at the library where Connie-Mac, W3SW, Director, Atlantic Div. handed out ARRL meritorious Award certificates to the Moonbounce DXpedition gang. Ed Tilton made an interesting and excellent presentation on his studies of the Sun and its effects on radio propagation. (See photos)

Received a long report from our SCM, W3HK. George Van Dyke. He and Gracie have been traveling around the country taking in the sights.

Congratulations to Earl, WA3ZRE for receiving the Omin Scholarship to Drexel University.



# ARRL NITE

CONNIE-MAC, W3SW PRESENTING ARRL AWARDS TO THE MOONBOUNCE GANG -- STARTING ON THE TOP ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT; W3HOT, W3SAOP, W3HTU, W3JUF, K3BPP, W3NFV, . . . THIRD ROW MIDDLE; K3JUZ. OTHERS IN PHOTOS AS FOLLOWS: - - - THIRD ROW LEFT; W2WYE AND K3WY. THIRD ROW RIGHT; W1HDO, ED TILTON THE SPEAKER FOR THE EVENING. FOURTH ROW FROM LEFT; W2ELE, W3HMU, K3TUV, AND VISITORS; THEN K3GOZ, W3CJU, W3SZY, W3MUJ, W2AXU AND W3CL. FIFTH ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT; K3GAS, LEITHA TILTON, W2AXU AND W3NDE.

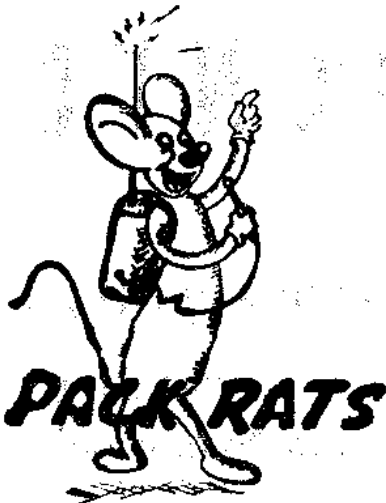


PG 11,

JUNE, 1977

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# MEETING NOTICE