PACK RATS

CHEESE SE



RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHE RADIO CLUB, INC.

MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILA., PA. (50.2, 145.2, 221.4, 422.03 & 1296.2 Mc)

AFFILIATED CLUB: AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

MEETINGS: THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 8:00 P.M.

VOLUME XIV

DECEMBER, 1972

NUMBER 12

THE PREZ SEZ

Greetings for the month of December. There is only one month left until the January Contest. As you all know, this is one of the clubs biggest events of the year. Many people dislike contests with a passion, but that is just a state of mind. It really is possible to convince ones self that contests can be fun. Sure they are exhausting, but what that is worth doing is not. The chance to work new sections is certainly there and you couldn't have a better chance to check out your equipment and try out a new band. Don't forget that beautiful certificate for working 50 Pack Rats. Lets all get in there and work hard and have fun. I know we can do it again this year:

It was very interesting to read W2EIF's V.H.F. Report last month, when he refers to two meter activity as being normal—normal means a schedule with Onio every night—let's keep that in mind for January — C.W. might help also. It was very helpful to have a description of the details of Oscar 6. This is an activity we all should try to participate in. V.H.F. has sure come a long way in the last ten years.

All of the best of Seasons Greetings

73,

K3BPP, Walt

COME TO THE CLOSED DECEMBER 20TH GENERAL CLUB MEETING. HEAR ALL THE HIGH LEVEL JAN. 6-7, 1973 VHF SS STRATEGY. NEW ARRL RULES -- GET YOUR CONTEST PACKAGE - 1972 SS PARTICIPANT CERTIFICATES. (BEAUTIFULLY PREPARED BY JO, W2EIF) WILL BE PRESENTED.

PACK RATS' CHEESE BITS is a Publication of the Mt. Airy V.H.F. Radio Club, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa., and is published monthly.

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DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

Swap Shop Items - No Charge

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AWARDS CHAIRMAN:

W2EIF, Joseph Kilgore #5 Sunnybrook Court Stratford, New Jersey OFFICERS: 1972-1973

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Vill LVRES: W3FQD, Dick Huntzinger

TREASURER: K3GAS, Doc Cutler

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W3CJU, Don Hampton WA3AXV Ron Whitsel WA3NGK, Harry Brown KlsFF/3, Tony Souza K3ZSG, Bill Murphy K3CIV, Ralph Hersh (Ex-Officio)

DIRECTORS' MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS.

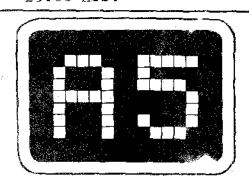
MONDAY NIGHT NETS: NET CONTROL
145.2 - 7:30 P.M. W2EIF

50.2 - 8:30 P.M. W3CL/W3GEW

221.4 - 9:00 P.M. K3GAS 432.03 - 9:30 P.M. K3IUV

1296.3 - 10:00 P.M. KlsFF/3

FRIDAY NIGHT NET: 439.250 ATV NET -19:00 Hrs. NET CONTROL K3ZKO/WA3AXV



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SERSONS GREETINGS W3GEW SIL ELITH GILANDBETTE	Holiday Greetings fm Sylvia +Harry-W3CL +Marsha too- WASTEM	GAMCW:- 2 AM, FM, MCW
Seasons Greetings from W2HF W2 High Frequency Herb Brown	SEASONS GREETINGS FROM PHILADELPHIA ARPSC EC-WA3HIT AEC WA3IFL NCS-WA3IFL 50.7MHZ THURS 8:30ML	SEASONS GREETINGS W3NSI
HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM MOTHER RAT FRANKIE WISAO SGT. HARRY BRICK USMC	SEASONS GREETINGS DOC & LOCATTA. K3GAS	SEASONS GREETING Walt K3BPP
K3DLS Carl or	SEASON'S GREETINGS AND HOPE YOU GET 20,000 POINTS IN CONTEST JO WZEIF	SEASONS Holida Greetings Marie & BARtti WASHOW
K3AA/4 Papos from FLA K3WEK DON	SEASON'S GREETINGS W3FQD Dick # Mary	HAPPY HOLIDAYS STILL W3YXF See
SEASONS GREETINGS DON GINNA NW3CJUN	SEASONS GREETIMES TO ALL RANDY + DELLA (WBISZK)	HAPPY Holiday Bill K3ZS(
SEHSONS GREETINGS FROM K3JJZ LORRAINE GLEN, BRIAN 2 HOLLIN, 1	SEASONS GREETINGS WABBIV/2	SEASONS & JOHN GREETINGS TO WAJLNIF

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS, SYLLABUS BY LEE, K3MXM

DECEMBER

- Meeting at the home of Chuck Benavides, WA3LNH, 1218 Meadow Lane, Perkasie, Pa. Discussion and planning for Club Moon Bounce Project on 432 MHz. Those of you with equipment are invited to join in this exciting mode and test. More details will follow as plans are firmed up.
- Philadelphia Area Repeater Association Meeting. General Electric Company, King of Prussia, Pa. In the cafeteria. 8:00 P.M.
- Board of Directors Meeting. QTH-Dick Huntzinger, W3FQD, 130 Fairhill Drive, Churchville, Pa. 8:00 p.m. Directors & interested parties are invited.
- General Club Meeting West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center, 8:00 P.M. CLOSED MEETING, Club Members Only. Preparations for Jan. Contest. Packages will be distributed. Make your plans now to attend this most important meeting of the year. Refreshments will be served.

JANUARY

- HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU FROM ALL OF US ON THE CHEESE BITS STAFF: Space Net, WB2MTU, 8 P.M. on 50.2 MHz. Inaugural net, special sovenir.
- 6-7 THE CONTEST
- 10 Board of Directors Meeting
- 17 General Club Meeting, "Crying Towel Session"

FEBRUARY

21 HOME BREW NITE, GET BUSY ON THOSE PROJECTS NOW!

FROM ARRL-DIRECTORS LETTER NO. 1438 OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1972

Changes applying to repeaters and remotes

Repeater frequencies.

Repeaters may operate anywhere in the following segments of the bands: 52.0-54.0 MHz; 146.0-148.0 MHz; 222.0-225.0 MHz;

442.0-450.0 MHz, and on any amateur frequency above 1215 MHz. In addition, the frequency band 29.5-29.7 MHz may be authorized upon a special showing of need for repeater station operation in this band for intra-community amateur radio communications. FCC's 1970 proposals for spot frequencies and for total banning of repeaters below 50 MHz were thus greatly modified as a result of CONTINUED

ARRL DIRECTORS LETTER CONTINUED

amateur comments in the Docket, together with changed views among FCC staff.

Repeater power.

All throughout the Report and Order there is emphasis on repeaters being used for intra-community work. The Commission feels strongly that each repeater should exist primarily to serve mobile and hand-held portables in a local area. Especially, FCC feels that transmission of signals from a repeater station over a distance many times greater than the received-signal coverage would violate Section 324 of the Communications Act of 1934 as amended relative to using only the power required for the communications in progress. For these reasons, FCC has adopted effective radiated power limitations for repeaters which are tied to the antenna height above average terrain at each site. A chart showing these erp limits appears in the text below, as item 9 of the appendix; they range from 25 watts erp on 52 MHz for an antenna more than 1,000 feet above terrain to 800 watts erp on 146 MHz for an antenna less than 50 feet high and on 442 MHz for an antenna between 100 and 500 feet high.

Licensing of repeaters.

Detailed information will be required from applicants for repeater licenses, as set forth specifically in new Section 97.41, particularly subparagraph (f). Presnet licensees may continue to operate under current authorizations until June 30, 1973 or until the license expires, whichever comes first. After that time, a license specifically for the repeater will be required; its callsign will begin with the letters WR. Applicants must hold Technician or higher operator license. FCC offers to help with filling out a complex application; write the Chief, Amateur and Citizens Radio Division, FCC, Washington, 20054.

Repeater control points.

Licensees of repeaters will be able to include in the application names of other amateurs who can operate CONTROL STATIONS, and AUXILIARY LINK STATIONS where the terrain dictates it. A system network diagram showing each controlling point must be included with the application. Control stations may be deleted by letter, but the adding of new ones requires modification of the license through formal application on FCC Form 610 or Form 610-B, the latter for club and military recreation stations.

Happily, FCC will allow remote control of a repeater from a portable or mobile, provided that all of the monitoring and control functions can be satisfactorily performed. The receiver input frequency of the repeater can't be used for primary control, however. FCC was not ready to go to automatic control of repeaters; monitoring will be necessary, with automatic QRT in three minutes if control link fails.

Access tones.

Since primary control is to be on a frequency other than the repeater receive CONTINUED

ARRL DIRECTORS LETTER CONTINUED

frequency, coded access won't be required for users; it is, however, permitted where desired.

Linking of repeaters.

Since intra-community work is intended, only two repeaters may be linked together, except for emergencies and brief tests of emergency capability. No crossband or multiband repeating will be permitted, but a repeater may operate on more than one band if the input and output of a particular communication occur on frequencies within the same band.

Repeater ID.

The repeater should identify itself automatically while in use every five minutes by either phone or International Morse Code, with modulation enough to be heard over the conversation in progress.

Remote control in general.

There are new rules governing remote control of stations, both repeaters and others. Section 97.41 describes the application procedures for each.

Only the simplest on-premises remote control systems using wire and mechanical control will be free of licensing. The more complex varieties of wire remote control (as well as radio remote control) will require licensing, after expiration of the current authorization.

Identification of remote components.

A new rule requires that a durable tag be affixed to the antenna or feedline or mast of the remotely-controlled transmitter marked with the station call sign, the name of the licensee and other information so that the control operator can be contacted by Commission personnel in event of interference to other radio services.

FROM ARRL DIRECTORS LETTER OF NOVEMBER 15, 1972

"Once assured of the healthy working condition of the present Oscar, the Communications Dept. crew had a number of skull sessions with active Hq. staffers to devise some means of recognizing meritorious operating achievements through Oscar 6. What we've come up with is a "Satellite DX Achievement Award," one requiring a 1000-points-or-better total. QSOs through the satellite count 10 points, each new country worked counts 50 points, each new continent 250 points. Contacts must take place on or after December 15, 1972. Only one contact per station, regardless of mode.

This award relates only to the Oscar 6 Satellite. Work is continuing on a suitable method of recognizing and encouraging space communications generally,

VHF/UHF REPORT BY JO, W2EIF

The VHF/UHF bands have held up pretty good during October and early November. W8YIO in Michigan came thru in late October with an excellent signal (SSB) on 2 meters for several nites in a row. On the nite of October 31, November 1 there was a very fine aurora opening which lasted from 9:30 in the evening until after 3:30 a.m. the next morning. There were SSB stations in Maine, Ohio and VE3 land but most of the activity (2 meters) was on CW. Numerous stations were worked in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. KØWLU in South Dakota was also heard and worked. I still didn't work Minnesota although several people told me that WØRL1 in Minneapolis was calling me. Nothing was heard on 220 or 432.

The Satellite has produced some peculiar results. It has decreased some of the normal activity on the low end of 2 meters but on the other band some new blood has appeared because they built equipment for the satellite and found that there was SSB activity. This includes some former FM people who apparently thought that FM was all that was on the 2 meter band.

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS LYN, W3NSI

- Regency Electronics 6 Meter FM HR-6: This new unit, which is the same size as the well known HR2 two meter unit, has an output of 25 watts on 12 channels. Two switches are used for channel selection, one for transmit, one for receive, giving a total of 144 possible channel selections. Price \$239. 7707 Records, St. Indianapolis, Ind.
- Swan Linear Amplifier: The new SSL 250 is completely solid state including the RF section. The unit runs a PEP of 250 watts and sells for \$299.00.
- Swan Wattmeter: Another new unit from Swan, the WM 1500 can be 3. switched to read on four ranges to suit your power level. The ranges are 5 - 50 - 5-- - 1500 watts, with a switch to read reverse power to plot SWR. Price, \$49.95. 305 Airpost Road, Oceanside, California 92054.

TID BITS

Congratulations to a bashful beach comber, K3WEU / 6Y5H, on receiving a "Certificate of Merit" from the S.S. Hope for his part on a weather situation.

Our featured speaker was late in arriving at our last meeting (traveled all the way from New York) so visitors WA2VTR, Dolph and WA2LTM, Doug, collaborated on an off-the-cuff splendid talk on 1296 MHz. technology. Doug recently made the 770 mile record on 1296 MHz. K2RIW, Dick Knadle, the speaker of the evening, presented an outstanding illustrated lecture on Appollo reception from the Moon. He played tapes of the astronauts voices on the Moon and everyone CONTINUED

TID BITS CONTINUED

agreed that the signals were many db better than the presentations on stateside TV during the actual events!! You could hear a pin drop during all the talks. A really outstanding evening.

The Amateur Radio News Service awarded Pack Rats Cheese-Bits in Class A-2, 1st place for member contributions and technical articles. Congratulations to Elliot, K3JJZ, the previous editor.

W2AXU, Jack Power was elected Chairman of the Delaware Valley Chapter, QCWA. Congratulations Jack. Ernie, W3KKN, recently joined the Chapter - Wonder if K3GQJ, Jack, is approaching the 25 year mark also. He and his XYL, Janet, attended the November 11th Dinner Meeting. K3TUF, Phil Theis, gave an interesting illustrated talk on the Clegg FM line including shots of their new plant in Lancaster.

THIS LETTER RECEIVED BY ED, W3HKZ

Dear Ed,

I intended writing this sooner, but an quite busy. So here it is. I want to congratulate the Pack Rats on a fine Hamarama. It was a pleasure to be there. For the first time that they held such an affair one would overlook and forgive any faults. Well, I could detect none. Most auctions are a confused affair with people milling around so that those in the rear cannot even hear the auctioneer let alone see just what he is auctioning off. Well, you people had the forethought to insist that those attending be seated. The auctioneer was most efficient.

The numbering of prizes prevented the confusion of people trying to decide what they wanted while several whose numbers were subsequently drawn milled around waiting to select theirs.

The time of the year appeals to me. The heat of summer is past and the beautiful days of fall are beginning.

I am sure glad I attended. I never expected such a turnout. I am looking forward to one next year which I am sure you are planning. Please convey my congratulations to your fellow Pack Rats for a job well done.

1,3,

MORE ON THE OLD MAN, DE K3DLS

I knew Tom for just a few years, as a ham and as a friend, after he had retired.

He had served in World War I, around the world on land, on and below the sea in part, for sure, on the U.S.S. Pennsylvania, Brooklyn, Henderson and Wilmington; and he ended up as a Chief Radioman. He also served in the National Guard, and he ended his Military career as Sargent Major, USMCR. on July 31, 1934. He was a state trooper before joining the Philadelphia Police Department. He did a street beat, traffic corner, detective, plain clothes, river patrol, motor cycle, patrol car, sargent (he just squeezed by the written exam with a 98% grade), and retired a Captain. He even "worked" about a dozen years or so at the police radio transmitter in Fairmount Park from when it started until it was replaced by a new higher requency unmanned transmitter. In 1935, the Philadelphia record had a picture of Officer Coin at the mike of WPOP. This AM rig had class a modulators putting out a couple of KW of audio. One night while drinking coffee off duty in the next room, Tom heard the modulator fuse blow, and mentioned to the man on duty that he had troubles. The man gave a quick look and said that everything was O.K. When the phones rang saying "We ... don't hear you", he asked Tom what was wrong. "Check the modulator fuse, didn't you hear it blow?" The man didn't believe it but that was the Tom knew all his equipment well. At home, his receiver serviced his transmitter and his transmitter was used to service his receiver. He could read more information from the transmitter meter than any person I ever knew. Armed with an SWR Bridge and a transmatch he got "all the suds up to the antenna" and it got out. Tom could never tell the truth as it always got him into trouble. One ham insisted that Tom get off one of the low bands before the FCC caught him because he did not have a general license. So Tom thanked him and just QRT for a while. He got an extra when they first came out. Another day he got caught saying he had been on the air for just a few years when the other ham asked "did you live on Delancy Street a few years back?" 31A is listed with 500 watts in the first call book of 1913, but he operated years before calls were issued. He also ran into some trouble with a novice that could not figure out how a two letter call could be in the novice band! One day, and I was there, Tom was using a 5763 on six meters running about 6 watts into a three element home brew beam, and the Pack Rat at the other end seriously and vehemently claimed that Tom was using much more power and/or even using a linear! He worked Hawaii with that rig on a CQ. Hams could never figure Tom's signal reports but the formula was very simple. If you gave Tom a fair report, he was using something like the Collins or Drake line with their linear with a good size beam on top of a pretty high tower; but with a good report the rig was something of the order of a lunch box into a dipole hung in the basement.

His secret with both low and high power was good audio or keying, like "using two red lanterns to modulate one white lantern". He called WIMEH on one of his home brew 6360 two meter rigs that he "sold" to a new ham that claimed it did not work as he could not get over the back fence. Ken came back and asked "Tom what are you doing boot-legging that call for?", as Tom had used the new Ham's call.

MORE ON THE OLD MAN, CONTINUED

Tom once insisted his rig was a couple of tubes wired with rubber bands. About a week later a good group of hams came over and the XYL said dumped the largest assortment of rubber bands of all sizes and shapes to help Tom with his next project. Very early in the 30's, Tom had bad BCI at home. Tom would go to work and the XYL's radio did not work. Yep, a tube or two would be in the rig down stairs and Tom forgot to replace them. One night Tom came home to a shack full of busted tubes all over the place and not a single tube in the transmitter or the receiver. Tom just cried; but was very happy a few hours later when shown all the transmitter and receiver tubes sorted in the laundry basket. The XYL's radio never had a failure after that!

Tom was in pain constantly, his good days were just less pain. The doctors wanted Tom in a wheel chair for years but he would not go for it. He was a very strong man. He built and cut with hand tools and dull drills and reamed holes until the component fit. He could make a six, two, or twenty meter coil by eye and the thing would be close enough to dip in with no trouble at all. Only just a few years ago, Tom and I alone made it two days in a row to the roof to but up a new antenna. He used his arms to push and pull himself up the ladder. He got some radio money and could not find what he wanted, so we went to the department store in Jenkintown to buy two Christmas presents for the XYL. It took two starts to make the down escalator but he made the up escalator with no trouble at all. He enjoyed that and each of the safaris that he could make such as to the Pack Rat Club Meeting, the Picnic, Ladies Night, the store, other ham shacks, and a stop on the way back for a bite to eat. But with the pain he could not stay one place too long. A real big thrill was when several of the two meter lads from 1 land stopped over to see Tom after one of our picnics that Tom could not make before they headed back to the North Country. During a recent January Contest, Tom made the first contact with one of the New England Stations through the normal Jam that comes when a new station hits the band and all the local big guns and rats let loose. He knew how to operate. He knew all the old as well as the new vacuum tubes. He could use a straight key but all his CW, "just like WlAW", was with a cootie key. This was two brass posts with a hacksaw blade in the center. You twisted your wrist to hit either post for either the dot or the dash. Unlike the bug, you had to hit every one. This was mounted on a piece of the bakelite panel from an early AM radio transmitter from WIP. He still could hit well over twenty words per minute and still copy the 30 WPM gang. He knew both the land continental morse as well as the international morse we now use.

On two meters several years ago, there was an early morning net of two and threes that was out of this world. Many twos and threes just read the mail for laughs and tears. Tom was always the rich man with nothing to do but to go upstairs for another cup of coffee while use poor people had to go to the salt mine, some happy and some not quite so happy—in fact even so aggrevated to require a tranquilizer or two.

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-/O- (TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH)

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Glenside, Pa. 19038

ADDRESS AND CALL LETTERS CHANGE:

Paul Behrmann, K3WEU/6Y5H P.O. Box 69 Falmouth, Trelawny Jamaica, W.I.

ADDRESS CHANGE:

Carl Barish, WA3BIV/2 Millbridge Apts. #211 Clementon, N.J. 08021 1-609-627-4855

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we are reviewing our list of exchange papers, addresses, editors, etc. After the December issue of Cheese-Bits, it will be sent only to those publications that respond accordingly!

TID BITS

Thanks to Gene, WA3AKK, for donating material to the Club for sale at the Hamarama.

We also wish to thank AG Radio for the good deal on Hamarama Prizes.

Did you see El, K3JJZ, triumphantly running across the parking lot at the Hamarama carrying a used vacuum cleaner-said it cost 50¢ only, but K3UJD was breaking up-no motor in that machine:



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ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP:

* * * * *

Peter H. Shavney, Jr., WA3OVH
111 S. Easton Rd., Glenside, Pa. 19038
TRANSFERRED FROM STUDENT GRADE TO
MEMBER GRADE:

George McCouch, WA3DNC

NR 397 October 26, 1972, Atn Contesters. Nov. issue of QST details of new contest disqualification criteria to become effective with the November Sweepstakes. If the claimed score of a participant is reduced by 2 percent or more, the log may be disqualified. Disqualification carries with it prohibition from submitting an entry in the next annual running of that specific event. Calls of those disqualified will be routinely carried in QST. Duplicate contacts removed at Headquarters will incur a penalty of 3 additional contacts to be deleted from the score totals. Full details on pg. 55 of November QST.

VISITORS NOV. 15, 1972 PACK RAT

K2RIW, Dick Knadle, Dix Hills, N.Y. WA3LTM, Doug Moser, Cranberry, N.J. WA2VTR, Dolph Valardi, Spring Valley, New York

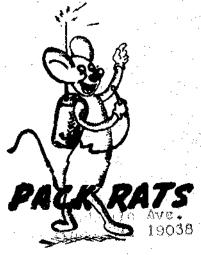
"TERRIBLE EXPERIMENT"

From Auto-Call, Nov. 1972. When the Leyden Jar was discovered in 1745, the Dutch scientist Pieter van Musschenbroek wrote the following: I wish to inform you of a new but terrible experiment, which I advise you on no account personally to attempt. I am engaged in a research to determine the strength of electricity. With this object I had suspended by two blue silk threads, a gun barrel, which received electricity by communication from a glass globe which was turned rapidly on its axis by one operator, while another pressed his hand agains it. From the opposite end of the gun barrel hung a brass wire, the end of which entered a glass jar, which was partly full of water. This jar I held in my right hand, while with my left hand I attempted to draw sparks from the gun barrel. Suddenly I received in my right hand a shock of such violence that my whole body was shaken as by a lightning stroke. The vessel, although of glass, was not broken, nor was the hand displaced by the commotion; but the arm and body were affected in a manner more terrible than I can express. In a word, I believed that I was done for. (From "Electricity and Matter", Smithsonian Institution Hall of Electricity, National Museum of History and Technology.)

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NOTICE



W3KKN. Ernest Kenas 2823 Old Welsh Rd. #1110w Grove, Pa. 19090

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

NOTICE MEETING

CLASS FIRST

STORE HOURS

9 PM.

TUES. 9.30 WED. 9.30 FRI. 5.30 THURS. 1.30

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