



PACK RATS CHEESE BITS

VOLUME III

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

NUMBER 7

W3CCX

(Meeting notices, last page) NOVEMBER 1960

LATEST NEWS ON THE HEATH SIXER

(Since Frankie purchased one for mobile use and it was received damaged, we have been in contact with Heath Company, and have received the following answers. Since most of it is personal, we will only quote the pertinent parts.)

Certain engineering modifications have been developed to further improve the performance of the popular transceiver. Therefore, we are including a modification kit with each HW-29 shipped, making it necessary to increase the selling price an additional \$4.95. (This modification will also be available at this same price to anyone who has previously purchased the HW-29.)

The HW-29A incorporating these changes and priced at \$44.95 will be introduced after December 10th. (Quote #1.)

Regarding your inquiry concerning the revision of the HW-29; We now have a modification kit for the HW-29. HW-29-1 converts HW-29 to HW-29A and is priced at \$4.95 each. (Quote #2.)

Whether or not, Heath used the modification published in last month's issue, and also in QST, we do not know, but anyway they have heeded the requests of the ARRL and the Hams to do something about it.

The OM modified KKN's and his own according to the one in "Cheese Bits" and both rigs received a clean bill of health from the OO and other hams.

COMMENTS ON SIX AND TWO

By Smel A. Rhat

(Editor's note; This article is a little out of place in the set-up of "Cheese Bits", but it is placed here because it deals with the Heath Sixer.)

Now that the picnic season and the world series are over, and the birds are winging southward, many of you that have been dormant all summer will reappear on the VHF bands and get caught up on all of the DX that you missed. In case you haven't heard--both six and two meters have been tremendous lately--September and October--. Very good Tropospheric and Aurora openings have occurred and those that have been on the air profited thereby. States from Maine to Michigan and to South Carolina have been heard and worked on the two meter band, and conditions on six meters have been almost as good. The better "ground wave" signals on two have been countered somewhat by the better Aurora contacts on six, both for CW and Phone. Several North Carolina and Southern Virginia stations have been worked on six with the beam to the Northwest!

The September QSD Party presented an excellent opportunity to try out the rigs and find out what has to be done to prepare for the big VHF contest in January. A lot of us found that new transmitters, receivers, and antennas as well as numerous circuit revisions will be the order of the day until January. In case you haven't started the checkups and changes on your equipment, don't forget that as you read this, there are only 12 weekends left to get ready. Since 3 or 4 of these weekends occur at holiday times, there are actually only about 8 left--so take heed--get busy--it's later than you think--and antennas are tough to put up after November.

In tuning over the bands, I have recently noticed a character who I shall refer to as "Hammering Hank"--This individual throws a carrier on with no identification or otherwise--he then proceeds to procure a board, a half dozen nails and a hammer and before you know it, he has clobbered the speaker with loud banging noises. Having finished the carpentering job, he shuts down the rig--still no identification--hunts some more nails and repeats the performance I don't know what purpose this nail driving practice is supposed to demonstrate but if it is a new method to determine a correct modulation level, it is cer-

tainly unique if somewhat disconcerting to the listener. (OO>Please note.)

The Sixer is still showing up with poor quality signals in some cases. The Mfr, QST and the Pack Rats are to be commended on their effort to improve the little rigs. I understand that a modification kit is now available from the Mfr. and modifications were detailed in OCT. QST and Cheese Bits,

The above is all well and good but all too often I hear an operator (Advanced General and Technician) contact a station which is all too obviously on the ragged edge legally. Their Report goes like this, "It sounds OK to me,--it may not be quite as good as a really Xtal controlled rig--but go ahead and use it." Now this is nothing more than sloppy reporting with advice to ignore FCC regulations. You don't help yourself or the band conditions by condoning the operation of marginal performing equipment. If you have any pride in the operation of your rig, don't put up with junky signals. The favorite excuses that one gets is, "I don't have time to fix it due to other activities!" I can only conclude that such an operator either doesn't know how to fix the rig or that he should use the time spent on the air with the set to fix it.

Nuff Sed,
Smel

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NETS: 144.2 each Monday 8:00 P.M.
50.2 each Monday 9:00 P.M.
221.4 each Monday 10:15 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING, THIRD WEDNESDAY OF
EACH MONTH AT WEST OAK LANE
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER,
SEGGWICK & THOURON STREETS,
8:00 P.M.

DIRECTORS MEETING: SECOND WEDNESDAY OF
MONTH

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS 15th OF EACH
MONTH.

First things first. I goofed again last month in reporting that W1HDDQ, was no longer the VHF Editor of QST. Seems that I misunderstood the Article in September QST. The following is a note received from Ed.

October 3, 1960

Dear Helen:

Slight distortion in Vol. III, No.6 Cheese Bits: No change in my status here. I am still V.H.F. Editor of QST. Writing of the World Above 50 Mc. is now done by Sam and Helen Harris(why didn't I marry a gal named Helen, so I could have gotten my writing done for me?) in the same way

as other non-staff column contributions are done.

I have always (well since 1945) been a member of the ARRL Technical Staff, and my position is unchanged, except that I hope to get more of a technical nature done under the new arrangement. So far it seems to be working out nicely, and I was mighty happy that Sam and Helen could and would handle the column. I still contribute to it, and make last-minute additions or corrections that may add to its effectiveness as a news-reporting medium.

Thanks, again, for your fine coverage of v.h.f. affairs in the Philadelphia area. I see many club bulletins regularly, and Cheese Bits is the largest and best organized of any serving the v.h.f. field. The Mt. Airy V.H.F. Radio Club has every reason to be proud of it, and to be grateful for your efforts.

73,
Edward P. Tilton,
W1HDDQ
V.H.F. Editor, QST

NEWS FROM N.N.J.

By Jack Tompkins, K2HHS

News from up this way is mostly the fine openings that has been on Two Meters. (Some one is missing a lot of fun by not being on the band.)

Areas heard from N.N.J last month were Mich., Ohio, W. Va., N. Caro., S. Caro. Fla., Va., Del. and ALL New England including Maine.

Our club, East Coast VHF Society, Inc. is holding a monthly marathon contest and for Sept., it looks like a close one between WA2COP and WA2FAW.

As per C.Q. Mag., another one of our members brought home the bacon, K2K21 won the last V.H.F. Contest by "QR". He also gets the Bronze Plaque for scoring over a "Million Points".

We were very sorry to hear of the passing of Ed, K2VSE of River Edge, N.J. He was very active on Six Meters. If anyone would like to work the wee hours on Two Meters, W1BAF, Berney,

Wapping, Conn. and WA2FFB, Reg, Wy-
coff, N.J. are on 145.350 week days at
1:00 A.M., (Monday thru Friday). Wap-
ping, Conn. is N.E. of Hartford, Conn.

Our club offers a very Beautiful V.H.F.
Certificate to any station that contacts
Ten (10) members. Send a duplicate
log to this station for the Award.
(Either on Two or on Six Meters.)

That's it fer now. Wish all a load of
luck and lots of DX on all bands,

72,73, 75,

Jack Tompkins, K2HHS

Anyone interested in working for the
Certificate, and it is a beautiful
one, we have a sample, should contact
Jack Tompkins, K2HHS, 135 Herbert
Terrace, Saddle Brook, N.J., and he
will send you a list of club members
for a check-off of members worked.

Thanks Jack for the news. Send all
you have and we will print it.

Just to break up the monotony of read-
ing letters, we will print the follow-
contribution from our "Bluebird of
Happiness", K3JAY, Doc.

After reading it, and you have picked
yourself off the floor, we will go
back to our letters.

THE STORY OF TWELVE BOTTLES

I had twelve bottles of whiskey down
in my cellar and was told by my
wife to empty the contents of each and
every bottle down the "sink-or- else".
So I said I would and proceeded with
the unpleasant task. I withdrew the
cork from the first bottle and poured
the contents down the sink with the
exception of one glass, which I drank.
I extracted the cork from the second
bottle and did likewise, with the ex-
ception of one glass, which I drank.
I then withdrew the cork from the third
bottle and poured the whiskey down the
sink which I drank. I pulled the cork
from the fourth bottle down the sink
and poured the bottle down the glass,
which I drank. I pulled the bottle
from the cork of the next and drank
one sink out of it, and threw the rest
down the glass. I pulled the sink out
of the next glass and poured the cork
down the bottle. Then I corked the
sink with the glass, bottled the drink
and drank the pour. When I had every-
thing emptied I steadied the house
with one hand, counted the glasses,
corks, bottles and sinks with the other,
which were 29, and as the house came
by I counted them again, and finally
had all the houses in one bottle, which
I drank. I'm not under the alcohfluence
of incohol but some thinkle peep I am.
I'm not half so thunk as you might
drink. I fool so feelish I don't know
who is me and the drunker I stand here
longer I get.

OK, boys, pick yourself up, and let's
get back to the more serious aspects.

Doc, K3JAY, sends his regards to all
the boys and hopes to get to see us
soon again. With his office hours,
hospital duties and as Medical Officer
of the Bell Telephone Company, we do
not hear from him often, but when we
do, the preceding is the result. After
that, I think he should visit W3IHT or
K3GAY.

No one can say we aren't a happy club.
We have Doc, "The Bluebird of Happiness"
K3JAY and Don, K3GAY.

Speaking of K3GAY, here is a letter
from him.

October 3, 1960

Dear Frankie:

I'm sorry to have missed the last meet-
ing at John's, but I was in bed with
the virus. Seems it hit me last Mon.
and what with lecturing etc, I lost
my voice. By Wednesday nite I wasn't
in any too good shape so I stayed in
bed. I wish I could have made the
meeting tho.

Philadelphia is a consistent Q5 S7
circuit between myself and K3CRU. Of
course, George's antenna is a 5 el.
75 ft. high, but he only runs 18 watts
so I should be able to hear many of the
fellows with moderate power and good
antennas. However, there are long
periods when I don't hear much doing
down in Phila.--if they would only
turn their beams up this way they
could have an Allentown contact. Some
of the fellows I've heard, when they
have their beams up this way are,
K3GOZ, W3CL, K3ESL, W2EIF, K3CIV among
club members. I hear South Jersey
stations MORE than I hear Phila. sta-
tions, probably because they turn
their beams up this way more often.
I hope in the January contest I'll be
able to work somebody else besides
locals and S. Jersey stations!

There is a little TVI up here, only
with two sets, but I haven't complete-
ly cleared it up yet. I figure I'm
putting 25 volts of RF into the front
end of one set--clearly this calls
for drastic measures! We're working
on it tho, and it doesn't occur when
my beam is down toward Phila. So we
can look for everyone on six without
any trouble.

BCNU,

73,

Don Lauer.

Now to continue with our geography,
we will move from Allentown, Pa. to
Frackville, Pa. and hear from Leo,
W3NWP.

These prefixes recommended by the
Internation committee on Weights and
Measurements, have now been adopted by
the National Bureau of Standards.

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

MULTIPLES	PREFIXES	SYMBOLS
10 ¹²	tera	T
10 ⁹	giga	G
10 ⁶	mega	M
10 ³	kilo	k
10 ²	hecto	h
10	deka	dk
10 ⁻¹	deci	d
10 ⁻²	centi	c
10 ⁻³	milli	m
10 ⁻⁶	micro	u
10 ⁻⁹	nano	n
10 ⁻¹²	pico	p

Thus 10⁻¹² farad is called 1 picofarad and is abbreviated 1 pf.

Thanks Leo, anytime you have more news send it down.

Continuing our tour of the coal regions of Pa., we travel North east to West Wyoming and the news from that area, reported by "Captain Crisco", W3KXH

UP STATE NEWS ON SIX METERS

Paul O. Mitch, of Milton, Pa., W3LXN, became interested in six meters, and after trying it out, found that his location wasn't suited for its operation. This is one conditions that exists up state in some localities, sorry to say. Please take note, you Novices and Technicians, you too can be a General. Paul's daughter, who is only 14 years old, is a General. Her call is K3LAN, and she uses her father's receiver, which is a HQ170, and she works the CW bands.

One of the very active hams on Six Meters, Newman, W3GTK, operates an electronic factory, but at this time we haven't found what he builds. Hi, hi.

A copy of our "Cheese Bits" was given to Phyllis, K3HNF, of Plains, Pa. She is a very active XYL up in "Them thr mountains, boys. I've talked to her and she is nice. I think she attended our Picnic this year; maybe you have met her. She likes our paper very much, and she listens for the Philly gang quite often.

Hurray! K3MXX finally got the Electric Co. to cut down his trees to make way for his beams, six and two stacked jobs, and a Forty Meter Zepp for his

forty meter operation, also got his shack cleaned of all its old junk which he sold to the junk dealer, and is going to use the money to buy a Heath Kit VFD. Fine business, Al, keep up the good work, your pal, Crisco, HI.

Notice:- Bill Schlosser, K3GHS, of RD 4, Dallas, Pa. worked W3MXV, at Malvern, Pa., which is located 25 miles west of Philly, and he was using only 10 watts. I must say, the boy's up-state are trying.

Captain Crisco talking: I have found that most of the fellows are running between 75 and 100 watts, which seems to be necessary in order to get out all the time up-state, and the activity there is growing more and more every day.

The best regards to all the Pack Rats; let's get our efforts behind the coming contest and let's get first this year. That's what I said; Let's get First Place This Year! Yes, I heard your thought, how many points does he make? Well Buddy, let me tell you something, I am going to try and do better than I did last year, so don't criticize; take care of your own points

73's and gud luck,

Captain Crisco

Having started our tour in N.W.J. and traveled through the "Coal Crackers" territory, let us travel up to New York, with a letter from the Braille Technical Press, Inc. From there on, you can find your own way home.

October 13, 1960

Dear OM.

Thank you very much for your letter of September 30th together with check for \$50.01. It was indeed most thoughtful of you and the gang to remember The Braille Technical Press.

You may be sure that this contribution will be put to very good use, for if it was not for the interest shown in our project by individual amateurs and amateur radio clubs, The Braille Technical Press would have long ago given up. Will you kindly express our thanks to your members and tell them just how very much we appreciate their interest.

We are sending you under separate cover a copy of the Braille edition as well as of the Talking Book (recorded) edition. The recording is made at 16-2/3 rpm and runs approximately one hour each side. It will not be necessary to return these to us.

Thanks again for your very nice gesture and very 73 to all the gang.

Sincerely yours,
R.W. Gunderson, W2J10
Editor

The copy of the Braille Technical Press we gave to the XYL, Sally, of W3SMK, who is a registered brailist. We still have the record, and we would appreciate anyone having a record player with the 16-2/3 rpm to attend the meeting, so that it can be played for the members, thereby allowing them to hear what is being done for the blind ham.

WHO, was on the two meter net, October 10th, and forgot to turn on the switch to the final?

Have your TV Pictures looked as though they were under water lately? That is the result of the Aurora. I found that by turning the antenna due North, they cleared up. Not as clear as they should be, but at least it saved them from drowning.

Just got a call from "The Old Zoo Keeper", Myles, W3ZTL. He is working in Newark, Delaware seven days a week. Congratulations, Myles and Deloras, on the expected birth in January.

Very happy to hear that the parents of John, K2SMZ, are home again from the hospital.

We are also happy to hear that the daughter of Lee, W2KFC, has returned home. Best of health to all.

Congratulations are also due to Jerry, K3BHK, who is getting married in Nov.

We are happy to report that Ralph, K3CIV, is doing well after his slight heart attack.

Our Jr. Op, Harry is a member of the All Philadelphia Boys Choir, sponsored by the Board of Education.

K. U. I.

By W3HKZ, Ed

The corner-reflector antenna is being discussed with increasing regularity in the technical literature. This interest stems from the fact that this antenna has been found to be particularly well suited for ionospheric of two plane reflecting surfaces joined at one edge to form a corner, with the driving element placed in the aperture between the two planes. An important advantage of the corner reflector over other types of antennas is that it can be designed to have extremely low back radiation, an important requirement for ionospheric scatter work. It also offers high gain, broad frequency response, narrow beam width, low cost, and ease of construction. One of the drawbacks of the corner-reflector antenna has been a scarcity of quantitative experimental data on the effects of the various parameters, such as lengths and widths of the reflecting surfaces and the magnitude of the corner angle, on the performance of the antenna. *****

The compatibility problems in Single-Sideband Transmission.- An analysis

of single-sideband signals has been made which yields results of fundamental importance in determining the conditions under which SSB transmissions can be made compatible with standard AM receivers. The first important result of this analysis is that conventional SSB cannot be made fully compatible without a sacrifice in spectral economy. The second important result is that a proposed square-law SSB system in which the message is conveyed in the square of the envelope of the wave rather than in the envelope itself, requires no sacrifice in spectral economy. In this case, a square-law envelope detector would be required in the receiver for distortionless detection of the signal. However, a conventional AM receiver could receive speech transmission without serious loss of intelligibility, thus preserving a measure of compatibility.

Thanks to the editor of North Penn Static for the kind words about our schematic on the modifications of the Heath Sixer. We hope that the further information, in this issue, may be of some help to your boys who are on V.H.F

Thanks also to the editor of Six Only for the mention of our transmitter hunts. Where else did you expect Rats to hide a transmitter but under a house Hi.

Understand that Karl, W3ASD, only has to work one more state, Hawaii, for Worked All States on six meters. Perhaps by now, he has made it.

We are sorry that there are no Swap and Shop articles this month. Guess every body has what they need. Anyway we would like to mention that if anyone has anything for sale or swap, please send it to W3ZRR, Raymond Whitehead, 4534 N. Smedley Street, Philadelphia, 40, Pa.

Who is trying to prove that life does begin at forty?

W3FDZ, Charlie, is assisting in the forming of a radio club in the Upper Moreland High School.

During the last CD Drill, W3IHT's hospital was the home station, with W3FDZ, at the controls and W3VGN mobile.

COMING EVENTS

- November 5 Tour of Atomic Lab.
Princeton, New Jersey
- 9 Board of Directors Meeting
- 16 Regular Meeting 8:00 P.M.

DOINGS OF THE COUNCIL

From the Sunday Bulletin, Oct. 23rd.

CITY TO MARK UNITED NATIONS WEEK

Observance Begins In Churches Today

A week-long demonstration of the ease with which amateur radio operators link citizens of many lands will highlight the city's observance of United Nations Week, which starts with special church services today.

The "ham" operators from throughout Greater Philadelphia will man temporary transmitters on the east side of City Hall and at the 30th St. Station. They will operate from 2 till 10 P.M. tomorrow through Saturday.

Their first message tomorrow will be from City Representative Fredric R. Mann, UN Week Chairman George F. Tyler, Jr., and Lloyd Sherman, of the Delaware Valley Council of Amateur Radio Operators, to Mayor Willie Brandt, of West Berlin.

Understand the boy from Allentown, Don, K3GAY, called in on the 220 net on the 17th with 4 watts, using a TV Antenna.

HILITES OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 12, 1960

Walt, W3KLL, requested to be relieved of his duties as alternate delagate to the Council due to business travel.

Ed then appointed K3LBT, A1, to replace him.

HILITES OF REGULAR MEETING
October 19, 1960

At the meeting held at the West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center, we had 47 members and 14 visitors present, to hear Mike Ercolino, from Telrex Labs give his talk on beams.

It was good to see K3GAY, Don, who came down from Allentown, and also to see some of the members who have been missing.

YOU too, can be the life of the party, just drive safely and stay alive.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

K3GQZ, Herman Klein, 2600 Welsh Road, #39, Unit 2, Phila., 15, Pa. HO. 4-6555

Please cut out and add to your address list.

MEETING DATES

NOVEMBER 5th

Tour of the U.S. Atomic Labs near Princeton, New Jersey. All interested parties are to meet at;

WILLOW GROVE TURNPIKE INTERCHANGE

at 1:00 P.M. SHARP, where we will form a caravan.

NOVEMBER 9th

The Board of Directors meeting will be held at the QTH of W3SAO at 8:00 P.M.

NOVEMBER 16th

The regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 16th, at the West Oak Lane Jewish Community Center Sedgwick and Thouron Streets, at 8:00 P.M. (Please note change of time.)

The speaker of the evening will be; Bert, K3IUV. His topic will be, Transistorized Converters for Six.

"PACK RATS CHEESE BITS"
829 W. FISHERS AVE.
PHILA. 41, PA.



W3KKN Ernest Kenas
2682 Old Welsh Rd.
Willow Grove, Pa.

TIME VALUE
MEETING NOTICE