

# CHEESE BITS



**W3CCX**

CLUB MEMORIAL CALL

SCANNED TO PDF BY BERT, K3IUV, 2013



ARRL  
Affiliated  
Club

VOLUME XLI

June 1999

Number 6

## The PREZ SEZ

I think everyone at last month's meeting enjoyed the excellent presentation by Pack Rat WA3DRC, Ed Finn, on Large Scale Integration (LSI) circuit design and production. We all take the technology that makes our electronic toys so small and powerful for granted most of the time. It was interesting to see how the technology evolved over the years to the level that it is today. What is really going to be fascinating is where are we going in the next ten years? The meeting this month will feature a talk by Pack Rat WA3RLT on some different applications for microwave technology.

The weekend of June 12 and 13 is the annual ARRL June QSO Party. Every year since I can remember the Pack Rats have used the June contest as sort of a VHF Field day. This year we will once again be on the top of Camelback Mountain in the Pennsylvania Pocono mountains (FN21HB). Make sure you work W3CCX on all bands that you have available. For those of you with microwave equipment this is the weekend to have it all working. This is one of the reasons you have all that stuff. If you haven't noticed the club has become rather competitive in this event over the last several years. Considering we do it without hordes of captured rovers or other canned contacts, we do pretty well. The club needs your contacts. Make a real effort to work us early in the weekend. Don't wait until 10 PM Sunday night to "give it a try".

The July meeting (7/15/99) will be the annual White Elephant sale at the QTH of WA2OMY. If you don't have any white elephants, then bring some of those precious, shiny little items you have been squirreling away all these years. Maybe it should be somebody else's turn to store them for a while. I am sure there are a few things that you could part with and never miss. Besides, if you make a mistake and part with something of really great value, just wait a few years; chances are pretty good that the same item will magically reappear at a future auction. It's always a fun meeting. Refreshments will be served.

The club is going to try and pump some new life into the annual Family Day and Picnic. This year the picnic will be held at the newly renovated facilities at the QTH of N3ITT and family on August 14, 1999. Al and Carol have been gracious enough to invite the club this year to hold the event at their abode in Ottsville, PA. You will hear more about the picnic as the date grows closer.

We were saddened to learn last month of the passing of long time Pack Rat Hal Grace, W3HFY. Hal was a very active VHF'er in his prime and continued to be very active on the air until very recently. Hal's health prevented him from attending meetings, but he was always ready to support the club in whatever way he could. In particular we will especially miss his weekly propagation and solar activity reports on the Monday night nets. RIP.

73, Ron, W3RJW

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## MEETINGS

Third Thursday each month at 8:00 PM  
Southampton Free Library  
947 E. Street Road  
Southampton, PA 18966

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**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES AND SWAP SHOP IS THE MONTHLY MEETING DATE. NON-COMMERCIAL SWAP SHOP ITEMS-FREE OF CHARGE.**

Pack Rat WEB Site: <http://www.ij.net/packrats>

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(610) 346-8698

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Ron Whitsel, W3RJW  
[W3RJW@aol.com](mailto:W3RJW@aol.com)  
(215) 355-5730

**PACKRAT 222 MHz REPEATER - W3CCX/R**

222.98/224.58 MHz, Churchville, PA FN20LE

**OFFICERS: 1998-1999**

PRESIDENT:	W3RJW	Ron Whitsel, <a href="mailto:W3RJW@aol.com">W3RJW@aol.com</a>
VICE PRES:	WA3EHD	Jim Antonacci, <a href="mailto:jantonacci@worldnet.att.net">jantonacci@worldnet.att.net</a>
REC. SECR:	WA3AQA	Walt Zumbach, <a href="mailto:wzumbach@bellatlantic.net">wzumbach@bellatlantic.net</a>
TREASURER:	W3KM	Dave Mascaro, <a href="mailto:dmascaro@gi.com">dmascaro@gi.com</a>
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DIRECTORS:	WA3DRC	(2 Yrs) Ed Finn, <a href="mailto:ed_finn@uste.vfsl.com">ed_finn@uste.vfsl.com</a>
	N3EVV	(2 Yrs) Walt Rauscher
	AA3GN	(1 Yr) Joe Landis, <a href="mailto:landisj@nwd.com">landisj@nwd.com</a>
	W2SJ	(1 Yr) Bob Fischer, <a href="mailto:fnst57a@prodigy.com">fnst57a@prodigy.com</a>

**PACK RAT BEACONS - W3CCX/B**

FM29JW Philadelphia, PA  
50.080 144.284 222.065 432.295 903.072 MHz  
1296.251 2304.037 3456.220 5760.190 10,368.177 MHz

**MONDAY NIGHT NETS**

<u>TIME</u>	<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>
7:30 PM	50.150 Mhz	WA3EHD
8:00 PM	144.150 MHz	N3ITT
8:30 PM	222.125 MHz	W2SJ
8:30 PM	224.588 MHz	W3GXB
9:00 PM	432.110 MHz	W3RJW/WA3DRC
9:30 PM	1296.100 MHz	WA3NUT/AA2UK
10:00 PM	903.100 MHz	N3AOG

**COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

LADIES' NIGHT:	N3AOG	215-443-9965
JUNE CONTEST:	N3ITT	610-847-5490
HAMARAMA:	NK8Q	610-847-2285
VHF CONFERENCE:	KB3XG	610-584-2489



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Saegertown, PA 16433  
814-763-1529

[n3efn@arri.org](mailto:n3efn@arri.org)

## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS - JUNE 1999

- 4-6 Atlantic Division Convention and 65th Annual Rochester Hamfest at the Monroe County fairgrounds near Rochester, NY. Talk-in on 146.28/.88.
- 9 The Arietids Meteor Shower predicted peak will be at 1500 UTC. See W6CL's column in the June issue of CQ for more details.
- 12 Packrat Board of Directors meeting held on the mountain at the contest site.
- 13-15 June VHF OSO Party. See May QST Page 94 for rules. W3CCX will be operating from FN21HB, Camelback Mountain, near Tannersville, Pa. on all bands thru 24 GHz.
- 14 Flag Day
- 17 Packrat meeting at the Southampton Free Library on Street Road in Southampton, Pa. Annual election of officers. All members and interested VHFers welcome. Ben Kelsall, WA3RLT, will give a presentation on his firm's use of microwave energy in a non-communications application.
- 19-20 1998 SMIRK Party Contest. 0000-2400Z. See rules see <http://www.smirk.org> Send entries by 1 August to Pat Rose, W5OZI at PO Box 393, Junction, TX 76849-0393. Brief rules are in the June issue of QST, page 98.
- 20 Frederick, MD, Frederick County Fairgrounds, Frederick ARC, 10494 Balmoral Place, New Market, MD 21774. TI on 146.64-, 146.52, 448.425-.
- 20 Fathers Day
- 21 +/- 1 month. Look for openings to Europe on 6 meters.
- 24 LEAP INTO THE MICROWAVES with the Packrats! 903 and above. Starting on the 4th Thursday of the month and continuing every 4th Thursday of the month operate from 8 to 10 PM local time on any band 903 MHz and above. For coordination on those difficult long haul contacts 144.260 MHz is the suggested liaison frequency. So here's your chance to fix what broke in the contest and work all those stations you missed.
- 26-27 Field Day. See May QST page 95 for the rules. Look for lots of activity on 50 and 144 MHz.

### SWAP SHOP:

(send all ads to the editor)

**FOR SALE: CALLSIGN HISTORY.** Name and address of each holder since 1912. Cost \$15 plus SASE for printed CERTIFICATE. Wanted CallBooks before 1970 and QST's before 1940 will buy or trade. Also looking for 1x2 Ham Radio License Plates for my collection. Ron Allen W3OR, PO Box 73, Bethel, Dc. 19931-0073 or call 302-875-1100.

**FOR SALE:** Two (2) Old Antenna Lab (W6OAL) 2 meter Big Wheel antennas complete with phasing harness and power divider. Excellent condition. Cost was \$450.00 brand new - will sell for \$200.00. Drake R4C Receiver with MS4 speaker. Good condition but the receiver needs repair. \$75.00. Package: Alinco DRM03SX 10 meter FM XCVR, 10 watts, in excellent condition with a 12 volt Astron slim-line switching supply, \$200.99. Contact Harry Schools, K3HS, 8566 Glen Campbell Road, Philadelphia, PA 19128, Call 215-483-1111 between 4 and 8 PM.

### TID BITS

**N3XEM Update:** I'm Back It's Great To be Home!!!! 10:30 am Sunday May 2. I'll be in touch Beautiful Day to get home Bob XEM. Check the latest happenings of the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club by checking our web page at <http://www.ij.net/packrats/>.

**VUCC Award Checking:** If you want QSL cards checked for your initial VUCC Award or an update, contact Harry, W3HT at EME Symposium 99 will be an EME beginners workshop held on August 20-21 at the Marriott in East Syracuse, NY. Call Dave Halliday, K2DH at 716-728-9517 or e-mail him at [k2dh@frontiernet.net](mailto:k2dh@frontiernet.net) for information. See the conference web site at <http://www.gencities.com/~kb2ah/symposium99.html>.

**Club Jackets** are still available. Contact Dick, N3AOG. He has to have a minimum of 6 to place an order.

### CHEESEBITS SUBSCRIPTIONS

Cheesebits subscriptions are available to everyone interested in activities and information from the VHF through the microwave frequencies. Subscriptions are for 1 year of 12 issues. For a subscription, send the following information:

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June 1999

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## 1999 NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS

Elections will be held at the June meeting. Nominations will be open at the meeting prior to voting.

**President:** Later

**Vice President:** Jim Antonacci, WA3EHD

**Treasurer:** Dave Mascaro, W3KM

**Recording Secretary:** Walt Zumbach, WA3AQA

**Corresponding Secretary:** Joe, AA3GN

**Board of Directors:** Bob, N3XEM, Al, N3ITT, Brian, N3EXA

## PACKRAT BANQUET AWARDS

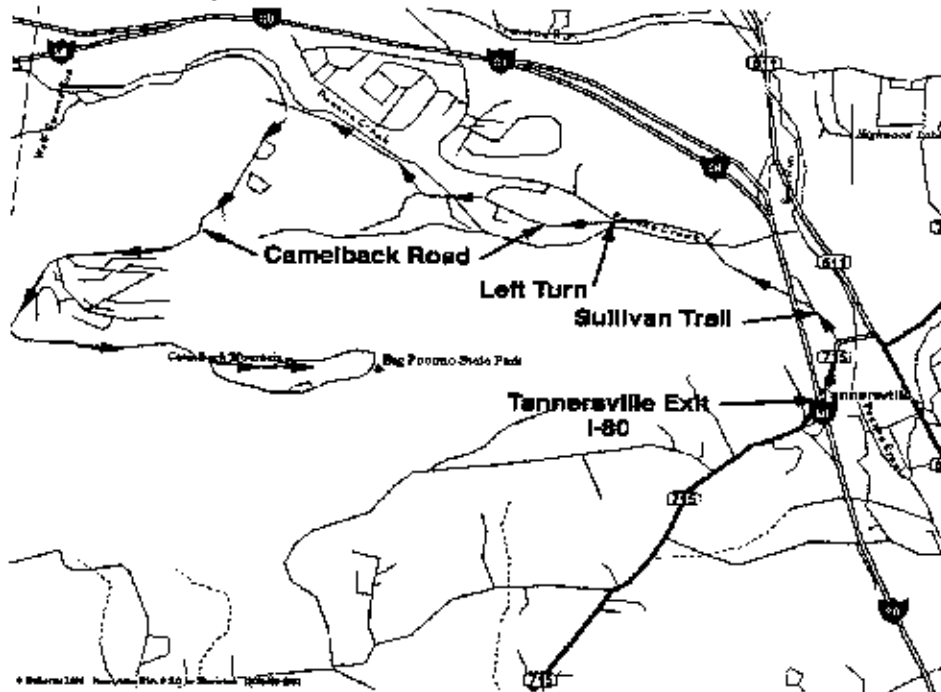
<b>1st Place Single Op, January VHF Sweepstakes:</b>	Ron Whitsel, W3RJW, 255,112 points
<b>2nd Place Single Op, January VHF Sweepstakes:</b>	Phil Miguelez, WA3NUF, 178,176 points
<b>3rd Place Single Op, January VHF Sweepstakes:</b>	Len Martin, N3NGE, 155,349 points
<b>1st Place Multi Op, January VHF Sweepstakes:</b>	Mark Adams, W2UR (+AA2UK, WB2EYF), 457,732 points
<b>2nd Place Multi Op, January VHF Sweepstakes:</b>	Bill Murphy, W0RSJ (+ WB2ONA, N2IX, W1PV, N3DG), 318,200 points
<b>3rd Place Multi Op, January VHF Sweepstakes:</b>	Al Sheppard, N3ITT (+ WU3C, N3OZO), 72,428 points
<b>Mario Fontana Award:</b>	John Sortor, KB3XG and Paul Drexler, W2PED
<b>Packrat of the Year:</b>	Al Sheppard, N3ITT
<b>Worked the Most Packrats in the January contest:</b>	Jeff Klein, K1TEO, 165 QSO's

## HOME BREW NIGHT AWARDS

<b>MOST AMBITIOUS:</b>	Mark Adams, W2UR, 10 GHz Tower Mounted Transverter
<b>BEST CONSTRUCTION:</b>	Len Martin, N3NGE 2304 MHz Transverter
<b>MOST MISERABLE FAILURE:</b>	Doc Whittacer, W3GAD, 6M Vacuum Tube X-CEIVER
<b>BEST PROJECT FROM MARIO RAFFLE PARTS:</b>	Joe Landis, AA3GN, 222 MHz Transverter
<b>MOST UNUSUAL:</b>	Dave Mascaro, W3KM, Logging Program

## MAP TO W3CCX/3 ON CAMELBACK MOUNTAIN

Take the Tannersville Exit #45 from I-80. At the bottom of the exit ramp go right on Rt. 715 toward Tannersville, PA. Go 0.2 miles and make a left hand turn (should be sign to Big Pocono State Park) on Sullivan Trail (If you come to a red light you went too far). Proceed back under I-80 and then look for small sign on right side of road to 'Camelback Ski Area' ( or something to that affect) and make left on to Camelback Road. Wind your way up the mountain. Near the top of the mountain there is a restaurant area. Go past the restaurant to the top of the mountain. The park closes to visitors at sunset.



## FM YAGI FOR 223.5 MHz

de Len, N3NGE (n3nge@ix.netcom.com)

Hello Packrats, I recently determined an application for FM existed here in the form of simplex intercom/liaison communications, to facilitate operations, and technical discussions (I can hardly believe that one myself!). To this end I have ordered a transceiver, and built an antenna for the 222 FM band. The enclosed word document describes the antenna for anyone interested in construction of same. Dimensions have been corrected for fm and converted to metric for ease of assembly.

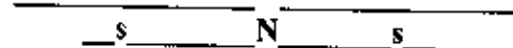
### NBS TYPE 6 ELEMENT YAGI FOR 223.5 MHz (FM SUB BAND) 1.2 WAVELENGTH BOOM - 10.2 dBD GAIN N3NGE May '99

<u>Element</u>	<u>Length (1)</u>	<u>Distance from end of boom</u>	<u>Spacing (2)</u>
REF	652.0 mm	30.00 cm.	0.0
DE	625.5 mm	56.85 cm.	26.85 cm.
D1	595.8 mm	90.40 cm.	60.40 cm.
D2	589.5 mm	123.96 cm.	93.96 cm.
D3	589.5 mm	157.52 cm.	127.52 cm.
D4	580.1 mm	191.07 cm.	161.07 cm.

Notes: (1).Element lengths are for 1" OD., thru the boom, insulated mounting. Elements are 3/16" dia. Aluminum rod, DE is brass.

(2).Distance from end is for end mounting. If other mount is desired, add your required offset to the spacing values to get new distance.

Overall boom length in end mount config is just over 6 ft. Balanced feed ( T match ) is recommended, and will achieve a smooth VSWR curve across the 222-225 MHz band w/ RL = 17 dB min. at 223.500.



Match wires # 12 solid copper, 255 mm long each from balun connection. Shorting straps 8 mm wide, at 245 mm from feed point center. Spacing between DE and match wires = 20 mm (inside measurement). 1/2 wave balun @ 69.5%V<sub>p</sub> ( RG-142 )= 466 mm shield length. For other cable multiply V<sub>p</sub> x 671 mm(free space). See K1FO vhf yagi in ARRL handbook for details on T match feeds, fine tuning is optional, weatherproofing is not... Len.

### HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

Does anyone know the present whereabouts of the "Packrat" statue that I (K3IUV) purchased many years ago as a gift for Harry Stein (W3CL)? Harry's wife Sylvia sent it back to a club meeting (one that I didn't make) at least 8 months ago. Since I wasn't there, someone in the club offered to store it. It has sentimental value to me because of my close association with Harry over many years, and I would like to retrieve the statue (if I could only locate it!).

In case you do not recall, it was about two feet tall, and made of ceramic. If anyone has information concerning the lost "rat", please let me know via e-mail, plain mail, or pots (plain old telephone service. Tnx & 73, Bcrt, K3IUV

### 1296MHz Sprint Results

PI-Station	Total QSO	Total Grids	Total Points	11 W2PED	9	3	27	23 N8XA	5	2	10
ace				12 WA2ONK	9	3	27	24 K4RF	3	3	9
1 WA8WZG	14	10	140	13 AA3GN	13	2	26	25 NE8I	3	3	9
2 W6TOI	17	6	102	14 N6DN	6	4	24	26 K8WW	3	2	6
3 K6TSK	15	6	90	15 N6TEB	8	3	24	27 KE7SW	5	1	5
4 N6PI	12	5	60	16 N3XEM	11	2	22	28 W6OMF	5	1	5
5 N3NGE	14	4	56	17 K1TEO	7	3	21	29 KC0P	2	2	4
6 W2SJ	14	4	56	18 W1COT	5	4	20	30 W9GA	2	2	4
7 N2CEI	11	5	55	19 W8PAT	5	4	20	31 K3IXD	2	1	2
8 W6AQ	13	4	52	20 WA8RJF	5	3	15	32 N0CKK	1	1	1
9 WA3DRC	11	3	33	21 KB0TZA	6	2	12	33 N0LL	1	1	1
10 WA2ZFH	10	3	30	22 W9FZ	6	2	12	34 W3EKT	1	1	1

Packrats

## FUTURE VHF/UHF/MICROWAVE SPRINT QUESTIONNAIRE

N8NQS, Editor / Publisher Great Lakes VHF/UHF Newsletter, Sponsor - 1999 Six Meter Sprint

ELLOWS VHF/UHF ENTHUSIASTS: Please pass this ballot along to your other favorite reflectors and fellow contesters.

With the 1999 Spring Sprints behind us, it's time to start preparing for the next ones. It may be early, and even a bit presumptuous to try to get these issues settled so soon, but I guess we'll never be accused of not being prepared. The new rules will be passed along to the Sponsor(s) of next year's events. They may even change them, but after this ballot, they will know what the participants expect.

We have had some discussion on a number of proposals. They will be listed below, and you are asked to vote either yes or no. Proposal issues without a vote will be considered as not mattering to the voter. A no vote on any issue means "leave it alone". We'll let this run for a week, then present the results and new rules. To any prospective Sponsor: Future Sprints will be your responsibility. You may elect to make changes, the purpose of this is to give you a starting point. It will represent what the contesters want. No slander is intended, and time will prove us all, right or wrong. I will not divulge how individuals vote. If you want others to know, vote publicly. Please only one response per person. Pre-ballot question - Should we change the rules?

Here we go:

### **Sprint Rule Changes Proposed By The Contesters:**

1. Include a Rover category in all Sprints.
2. Disallow use of call frequencies.
3. Make the Sprints a World-wide event.
4. Move all Sprints off weeknights.
5. Move Six Meter Sprint off Dayton weekend.
6. Make Six Meter Sprint a weeknight local time event like rest of Sprints.
7. Move Six Meter Sprint to another weekend, regardless of other contest interference.
8. Move 903 - 2304 Sprints to later (warmer) month.
9. Score Rovers according to pre-1995 VHF Contest Rules.
10. Increase operating time.
11. Allow only e mail submitted logs.
12. Add a Fall Sprint Series.
13. Move 903 - 2304 Sprints to a weeknight.

Respond, with votes and comments, to [vbuhf@voyager.net](mailto:vbuhf@voyager.net). Ballots received until 2359Z Monday June 7, 1999

### **903 MHz Sprint Results**

Place	Station	Total QSO	Total Grids	Total Points	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
					K7ND			7	2											
					W2PED			7	2											
1	WA8WZG	10	8	80	KE7SW			5	1											
2	WA2ONK	9	3	27	N6PJ			2	2											
8	W2SJ	11	2	22	N8XA			2	2											
9	AA3GN	10	2	20	W9FZ			3	1											
10	N3XEM	10	2	20	W6TOI			2	1											
11	N3NGE	9	2	18	K4RF			1	1											
12	WA3DRC	9	2	18	NI6G			1	1											
3	K1TEO	5	3	15																

Packrats

### **2304MHz Sprint Results**

Place	Station	Total QSO	Total Grids	Total Points	6	7	8	9	10	11
					W9FZ	2	1			2
					K1TEO	1	1			1
1	WA8WZG	8	6	48	K4RF	1	1			1
2	N3NGE	5	2	10	NE8I	1	1			1
3	W2SJ	7	1	7	W2PED	1	1			1
4	N3XEM	3	2	6	WA8RJF	1	1			1
5	WA3DRC	2	2	4						

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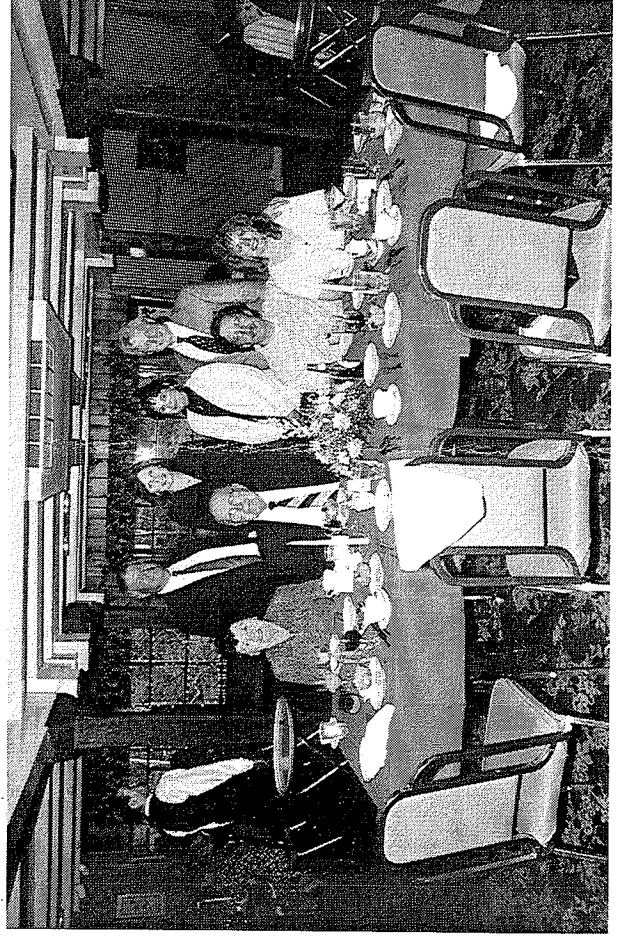
1999 PACKRAT BANQUET AWARDS



Bill, K3MFI, and wife Lois, Doc, W3GAD, and wife Arlene,  
Mark, W2UR and wife Alison, and Paul, W2PED and wife Naomi



Don, N3OZO and wife Ellen, Al, N3ITT and wife Carol, Bill, W0RSJ  
and Bob, W3GXB and wife Ruth



Rich, K1DS, and wife, Grif, NE3I, and wife Ava, Gene, KB3IB, and wife Anna, Ed, WA3DRC, and wife Crystal

1999 PACKRAT BANQUET AWARDS



Jim, WA3EHD and wife Pat, WA3AQA, and wife Jean, Ernie, W3KKN, a friend of the Rats, and Harry, W3IIT and wife Rose



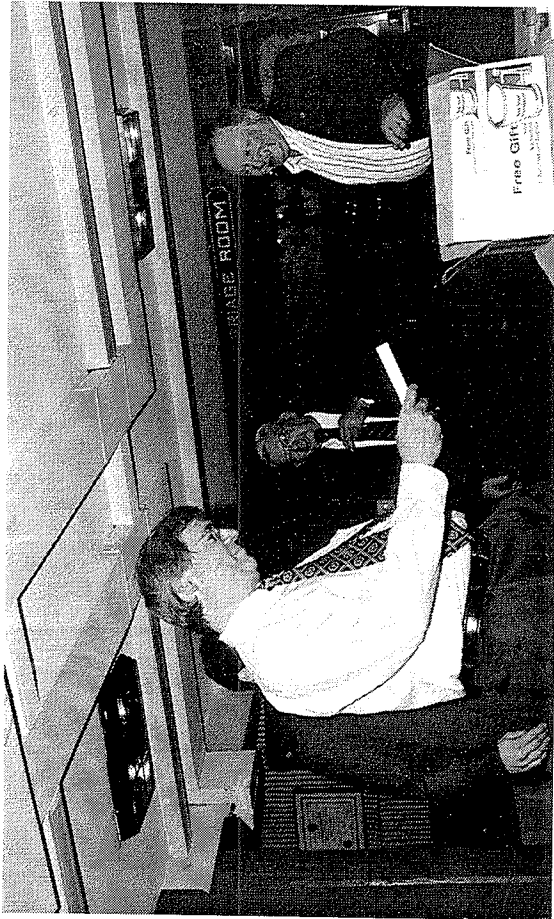
Dave, W3DFM and wife Dotty, Ron, W3RIW, and wife Lynne Mark, NK8Q and friend, Len, N3NGE and wife Linda, and Dave, W3KM and wife Barbara



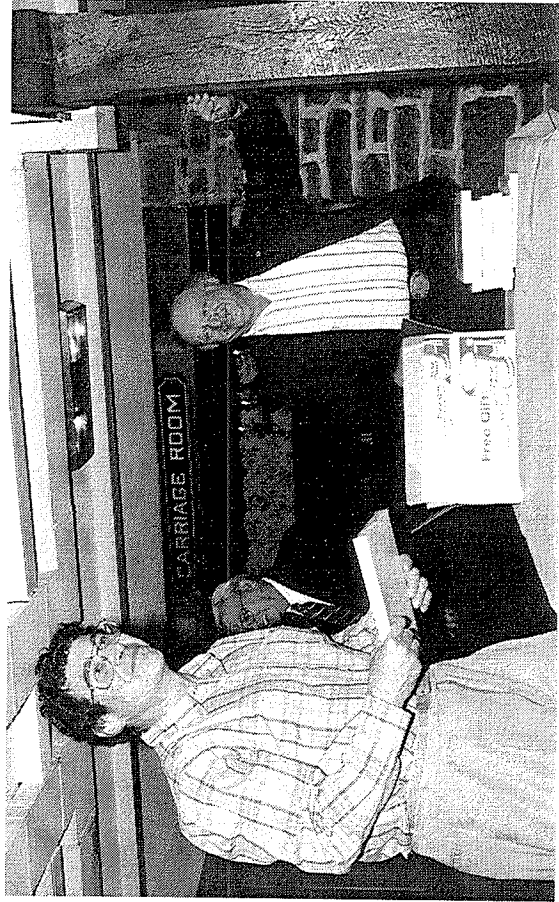
Pat, W2SK and wife Patty, John, KB3XG and Celeste, Mike, N2DEQ and wife Terry, Dick, N3AOG and wife Janice



1999 PACKRAT BANQUET AWARDS



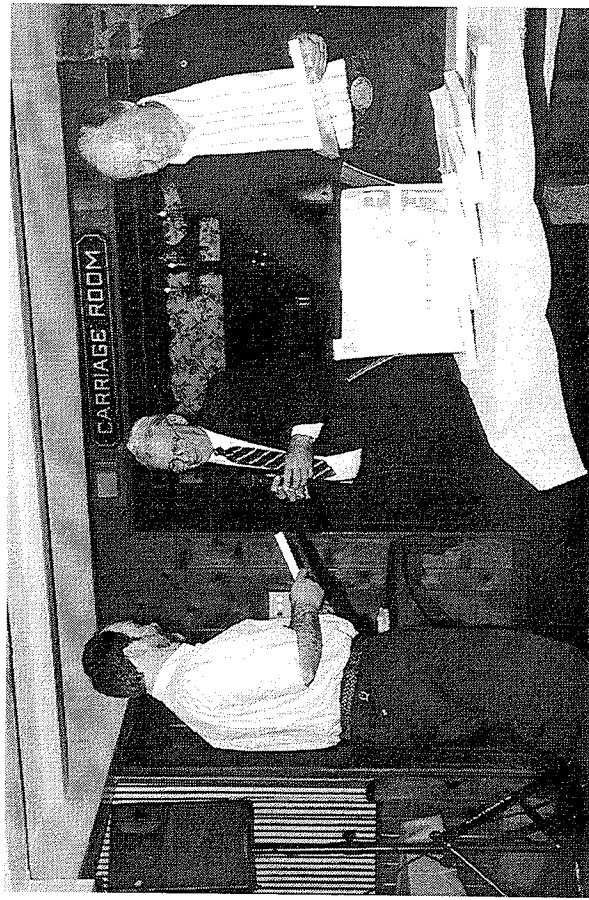
John, KB3XG and Paul, W3PED, Mario Award for their 24 GHz Efforts



Al, N3ITT Packrat of the Year



Mark, W2UR, Home Brew Night, 10 GHz Tower Mounted Transverter

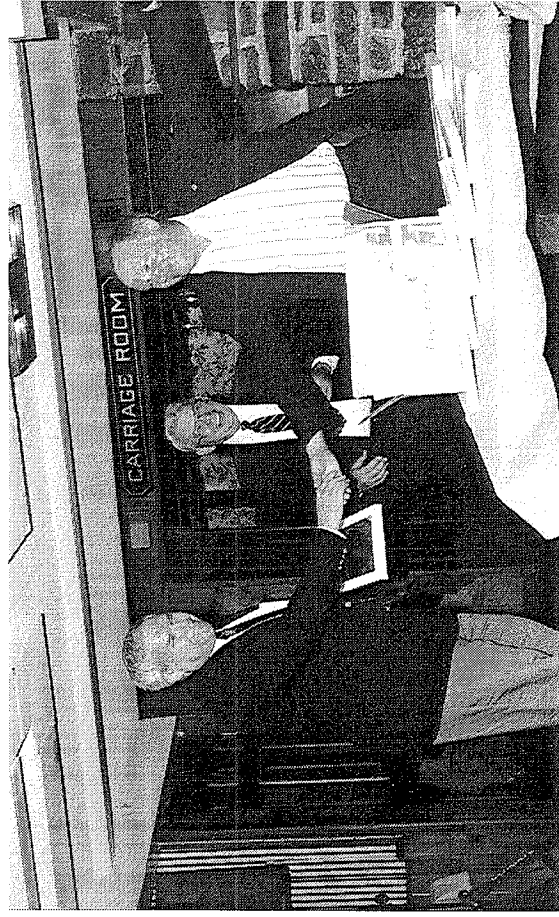


Len, N3NGE, Best Construction, 2304 MHz Transverter

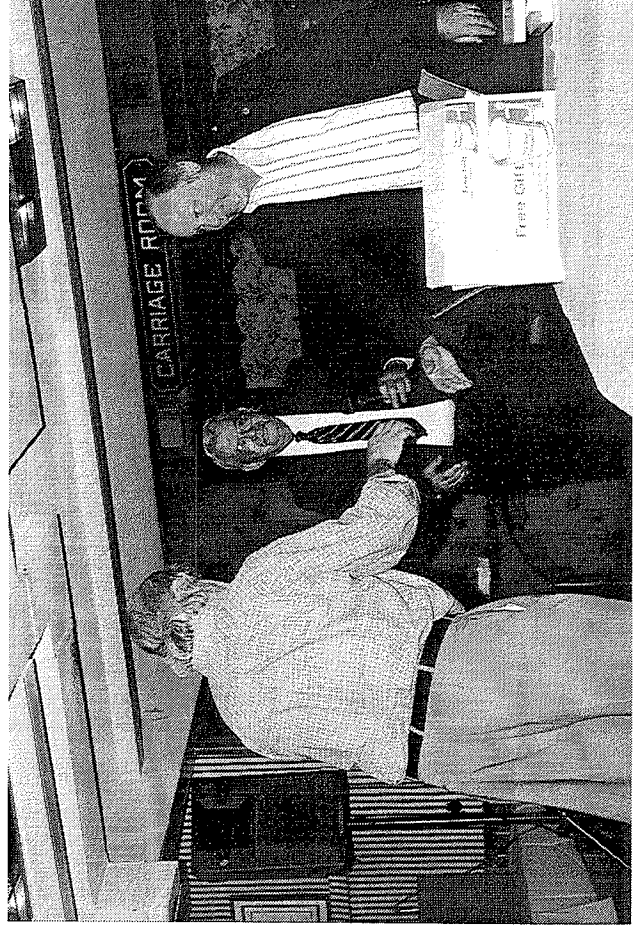
1999 PACKRAT BANQUET AWARDS



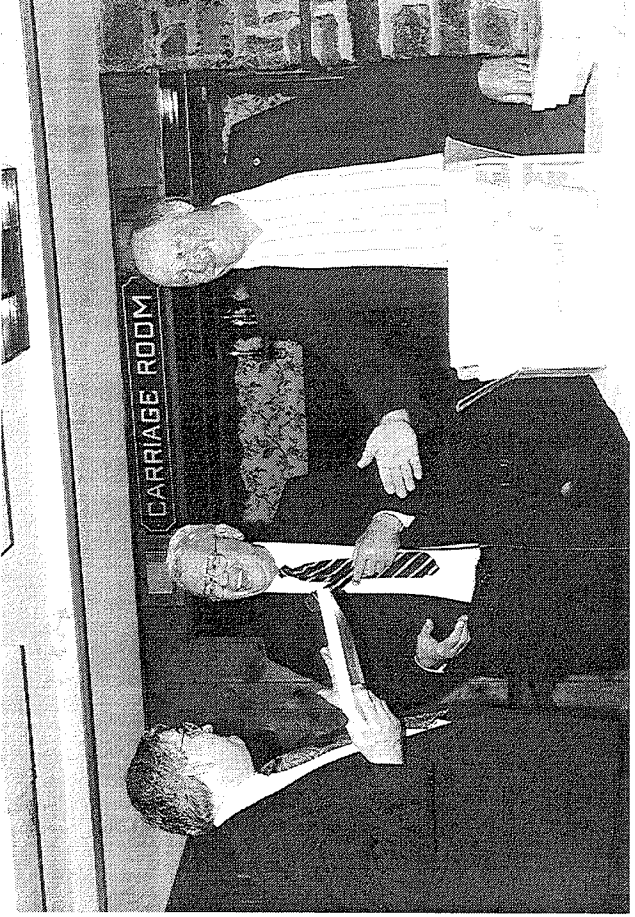
Mark, W2UR with AA2UK, 1st Place MultiOp Jan VHF SS



Bill, WORSJ, 2nd Place MultiOp, Jan VHD SS



Dave, W3KM, Most Unusual Project, Home Brew Night



Doc, W3GAD, Most Miserable Failure, Home Brew Night

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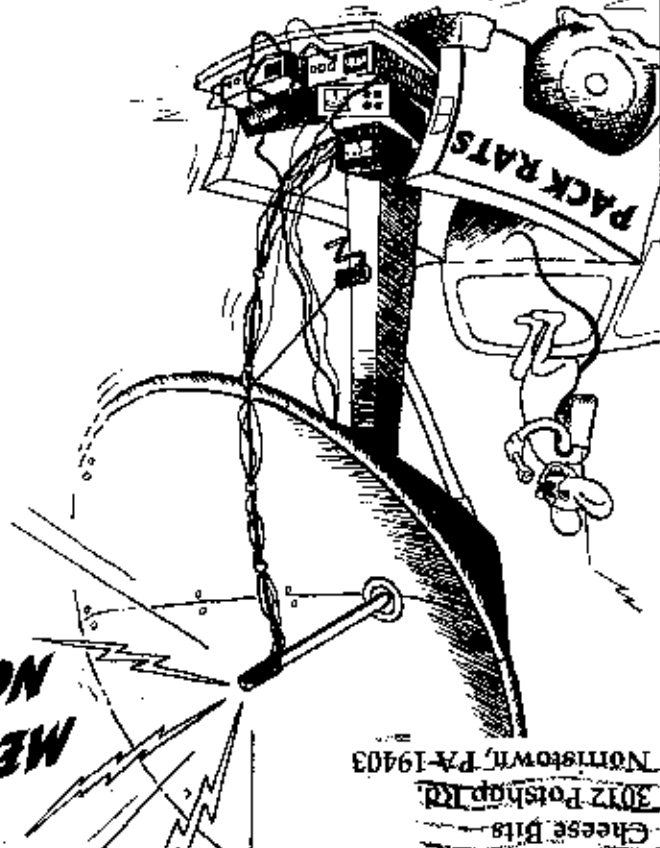
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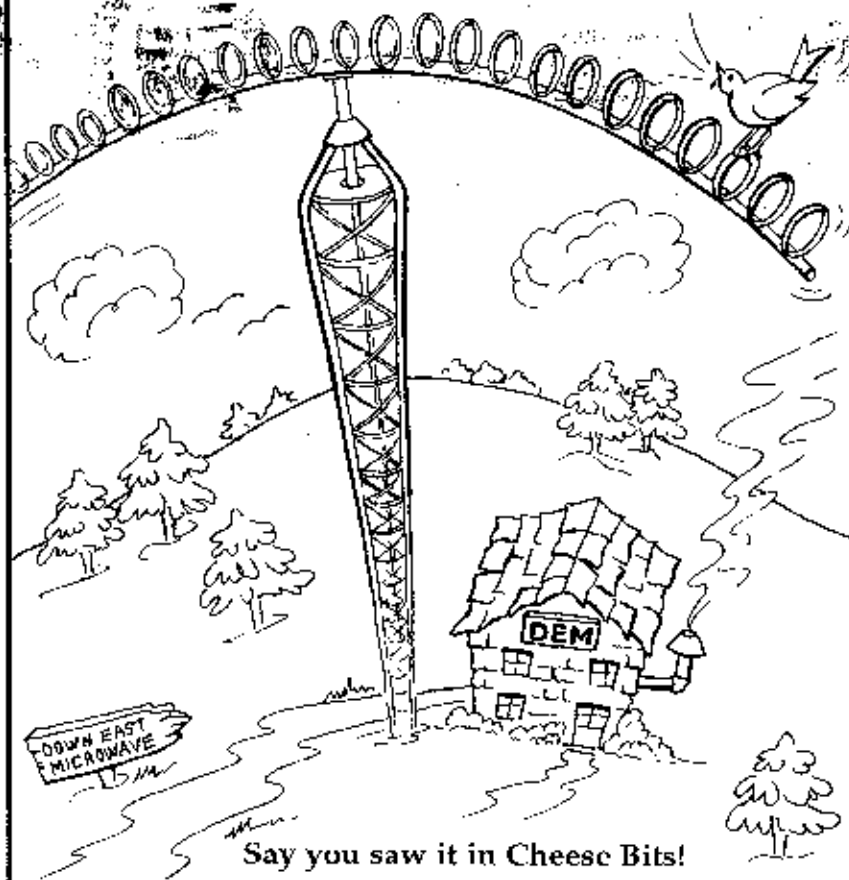
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