

PACK RATS'



CHEESE BITS



CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

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

50.125, 144.50, 432.110, 1296.025 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 18966

ARNS

VOLUME XXIV

JANUARY, 1982

NUMBER 1

THE PREZ SEZ

New Years Resolutions - Have you made yours yet? If you're like me, you're still thinking about it. A good but not unrealistic resolution can be a challenge and fun. What discourages us some times is that our resolutions are too big - even for Packrats. If you need some ideas, here are a few: Get on a new band - 432, 1296, 2304, get on a new mode - SSB on 220 or even CW on 6M or 2M, try a new propagation such as meteor scatter, eme, antennas - more and bigger, more power and a better preamp. One or more of these will put you ahead a bit more competitively in contesting and add to your day to day enjoyment on the bands. Another area for resolutions is to upgrade your license class - a number of Packrats have upgraded over the last few years and after a fling or two on the dc bands they always come back to VHF. A quick review of the latest Packrat directory shows a fairly balanced spread of license classes with 44 techs, 13 generals, 42 advanced and 14 extras. Whoever says that VHFers only operate on vhf because they can't pass the exams don't really have accurate information.

Hope you've reviewed the contest rules and prenumbered the log sheets to get ready for Sweepstakes. With only 2 weeks to go, there's not much you can do with outside work (but if you need help - yell) but make sure everything in the shack is working and your operating area is comfortable. Hope you can grind thru the full 34 hours, but if not, please give it your best shot. Our competition hasn't given up yet and we're not about to let them beat us without quite a fight. The results were close last year, but I'm sure that the difference could be widened considerably with a little more effort - that extra something that makes us Packrats instead of just another large group of guys that just happen to operate on the VHF frequencies. How much harder are you going to work this year?

73, Harry, W3IIT

Congrats to Bill, W3HQT for being top single operator in the country in the ARRL UHF Contest. Looks like 10 Packrats got around to sending in logs - where was us other guys?

Pack Rats CHEESE BITS is a publication of THE MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC. Philadelphia, Pa. and is published monthly.

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SWAP SHOP ITEMS - NO CHARGE

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES IS THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: THE THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

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609-783-9478

CLUB HISTORIAN:

W3CL, HARRY B. STEIN

<u>MONDAY NIGHT NETS</u>	<u>NET CONTROL</u>
7:30 PM - 50.125 MHZ	W3CL-W3HQY
8:00 PM - 144.150 MHZ	W2EIF
8:30 PM - 222.98/224.58	K3GAS
9:00 PM - 432.1 MHZ	K3IUV-WA2DPU
9:30 PM - 1296.025 MHZ	W3CXU

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COR. SECY: W3ZD, DAVE ZIMMERMAN
REC. SECY: K3IGX, DICK BOYLE
TREASURER: K3GAS, DOC CUTLER
DIRECTORS:

WA3JUF, DAVE MASCARO (2yrs)
WA3NUF, PHIL MIQUELEZ (2yrs)
WA2DPU, BILL SMITH (1yr)
K3NHX, JOE GARDOCKI (1yr)

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

JANUARY

1982 --- HAPPY NEW YEAR ---- 1982

- 1 ARRL Straight Key Nite
- 2/3 ARRL CD Party
- 3 Admission Day - Alaska admitted to the Union as the 49th State
- 6 Epiphany
- 7 Orthodox Christmas
- 9/10 73 Magazine 40 and 80 Meter Phone Contest
- 10 Richmond Virginia - FROSTFEST - Virginia State Fairgrounds. Info: W4LD
- 14 Board of Directors Meeting - QTH - W3KKN - Ernie Kenas, 2823 Old Welsh Road, Willow Grove, Pa. Officers and Directors will attend. Interested parties cordially invited to attend.
- 15 Martin Luther King Birthday
- 15 Adults Day - Japan
- 16-17 THE CONTEST *** GOOD LUCK TO ALL.. One Point Five Will Keep Us Alive.
- 16 For the Snow Birds - Sarasota, Florida Hamfest - Info: WD4BAJ
- 19 For our Southern Friends - Happy Birthday - Robert E. Lee, Born 1807
- 20 Fairbands, Alaska - Start of Kuska 300 Mile Dog Sled Race
- 21 General Club Meeting - Southampton Free Library 8:00 P.M. GRYING TOWEL SESSION. You will have a most receptive audience to hear all your problems and woes of the past weekend. Usually one of the best meetings of the year. Open to club members, their friends, and all VHF contestors. The Mario Raffle; Frankie's Silent Auction; Refreshments.
- 30 President Roosevelt's Birthday, Born 1882. Remember "The March of Dimes"

* * *

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

ADD ON PHONE NUMBER

WA3WAS/6 - Steve Simons
944 H Kiley Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95051
408-243-1178

WA3YUE - Bruce Loss
215-947-4166 -- Work --
215-542-2966

* * *

NOTICE

Dick Huntzinger, W3FQD has developed a morse code practice program for a Heath 889 computer. Written in BASIC; it should be readily translatable for use on any home computer which has a speaker for audio output. Contact Dick if you want a copy of the program.

* * *

N2CL reports - Starting Jan. 5, 1982, WA2SNA will be conducting new nets from the Ramapo Mountain Group in N. Jersey. 7:30 PM - 50.125 Mhz; 8 PM 144.225 MHz. Pack-Rats check in please!

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. TRANSVERTER 1296 MHZ: Selecto Inc. has a new line of 1296 transverters for use with either 10 M or 2 M rigs. Double conversion is used on the 10 meter version. Noise figure on the receiver section is rated 3.9 db. Two power outputs are available when used on the 144 Mhz range. The standard unit is rated 1 watt at 1296 while the high power version puts out 3 watts. The 10 meter IF unit has an output of 1 watt. Price - 2 M-IF 1W-\$315, 3W-\$395. 10 M-1 W-\$385. 372d Bel Marin Keys Blvd., Novato, CA. 94947
2. VLF CONVERTER: The MFJ 332 allows the ham to tune 10-500 Khz on a ham band receiver using the 28.010 to 28.500 Mhz range. Part of the BC board can be covered by continuing up the 10 M band. Converter uses 9-18 VDC., Size 3x4x1 inches. Price \$80.
3. TWO METER PA FOR HT USE: Advanced Communications International AC 20 will boost the 2 watt signal of a 2M HT to an output of 10 watts. Unit can be used for SSB as well as AM operation. Antenna switching is done by RF sensing within the unit. In use the AC 20 would normally be mounted in the car and left there. The HT would then be patched in for use in mobile operation. VSWR protection is built into the AC 20. Price \$40. 2411 Lincoln Avenue, Belmont, CA. 94002

* * *

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Joe, W2EIF

The bands from 2 meters up have shown the usual low activity for this time of year. The six meter band has furnished all the excitement from Mid October thru Mid December. The band has been open daily for cross band (and also direct) into Europe along with backscatter contacts to practically all sections of the U.S.

Approximately at Noon the band shifts to the West with the antenna fixed in the NW direction one can hear and work practically all U.S. sections on backscatter plus tremendous signals from Mexico to VE6-VE7, and maybe Alaska in the late afternoon. The band is not expected to continue in this everyday DX beyond Mid December. W2AXU reports that he has received SASE's from Alaska stations - what a switch. See you during the Contest January 16 and 17.

* * *

NEW HAMTRONICS CATALOG

Hamtronics, Inc. announces publication of a new 1982 catalog crammed full of goodies for the VHF/UHF/OSCAR enthusiast and two-way shops.

The 40 page, two-color catalog features a new 5 channel, 10 Watt VHF FM transceiver, new COR and CWID modules for repeater builders, and new accessories, such as RF tight enclosures for repeaters and power supplies. Also featured are a new R76 VHF FM Receiver and the T51 (VHF) and T451 (UHF) FM Exciter modules. Many new ranges of transmitting and receiving converters have been added, as well as a series of receiving converters to extend the frequency coverage of scanners to new military, satellite, and commercial bands.

For your free copy of this attractive new catalog, call 716-392-9430 or write to Hamtronics, Inc., 65F Moul Rd., Hilton, N.Y. 14468. (For overseas mailing, please send \$2.00 or 4 IRC's.)

* * *

Lee Cohen, K3MXM has done it again. As a member of the Old York Road Wingate lodge of B'nai B'rith was stationed at the Abington Memorial Hospital on Christmas Day taking greeting messages from the patients. Other volunteers of the lodge gave their time so that Christian employees could spend the holiday with their families. K3HIN, Rich Albert did a stint at one of the other local hospitals.

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Spring Basas for mobile antennas, \$2.00; CB radio interference Traps \$1.00; TVatching xfmrs and balans-couplers \$1.50; Antenna trunk mounts \$4.00; Battery holders for 4 - AA cells 50¢; 8 track tape players \$10 and up; 1-4/8 track player w/ 2 speakers \$20; Mobile slide mounts; Electronic learning sets \$8; AM auto radios \$8; Holders for records and tapes; new base station antenna for 30-50 MH and 130-175 Mh \$10; As is--motor and control box \$5; As is 5 wire control boxes \$3. each; As is 4 wire rotor \$3; 2 new VHF bow tie reflectors \$2. each; Slide projector \$5; Club mimeo machine and supplies \$15; Audio cables; some small length of coax; Heath oscilloscope model 10-4560 \$125.

CONTACT: Doc Cutler, K3GAS
Phone: 635-1078

FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-520 xceiver w/DG-5 digital display. Has D.C. converter for 12V operation like new condition. DG-5 is also a 40 Mhz counter \$495.

CONTACT: Jack Power, W2AXU
Phone: 609-882-8811

FOR SALE: Drake TR22 with xtals for 6 channels with AC power supply \$75; National NC-183D General coverage rcvr to 54 Mhz - like new \$125; Swan 270-SSB TR - works on AC or 12 V. DC. \$225.

CONTACT: Jim Beaver, W3AHZ
Phone: 215-886-8180

FOR SALE: Heathkit phone patch \$30; Hygain TH3JR hiband beam antenna \$100; 432 Mhz 15 el. quagis - make offer.

CONTACT: Paul Drexler, WB3JYO
Phone: 215-598-3934

FOR SALE: Halicrafters HA-6 6 meter xverter \$70.

CONTACT: Gary Hitchner, WA2OMY/3
Phone: 215-539-6409

FOR SALE: Yaesu #207 2 mtr. HT with memory, digital scan. spare battery, case, instruction manual, warrenty card. \$250. Fast charger \$50.

CONTACT: Larry
Phone: 215-342-3363

FOR SALE: Yaesu Ft 401, spkr, mike, 600 CW filter. (80-10 mtrs) \$225 (firm)

CONTACT: Al, WA3KUB
Phone: 215-426-9116

FOR SALE: Video camera - B&W; zoom lens. 5" monitor, cable. \$150

CONTACT: John Sortor
Phone: 215-968-3049

* * *

Sadly we report the following Silent Keys - Long time friends of the Pack-Rats:
Robert Booth, W3PS; Ed Handy, W1BDI; Helen Harris, W1HOY; Herb Brooks, W2BG; Joe Walsh, K3CT; George Hautenchild, W3KD

* * *

TID BITS

Sun watcher, W2AXU, Jack reports - Monthly sunspot No. for November 1981 = 235.6
Smoothed number for May, 1981 = 142.7.

Dick Boyle, K3IGX, our recording secretary spent some time in the hospital with a bad back. Feeling better now.

Best wishes to Doug & Wendy Simpson, WB3KES leaving for residence in Melbourne, Florida. Doug will be working for Harris Electronics.

* * *

AMATEUR RADIO FELLOWSHIP MEETING

Lyn Rowland, W3NSI, will speak on "Electronic Devices for Radio Amateurs" to the Greater Northeast Phila. Amateur Radio Fellowship which meets on Monday, January 25, 1982, 7:00 P.M., at the Northeast Regional Library, Cottman Ave. and Oakland St. (Opposite Gimbel's). Admission is free and there is ample free parking opposite the Library. For further information, call either Al, W3AYJ, 725-2869; Joe, K3RFL, 698-8051 or Dan, K3HES, 338-7946.

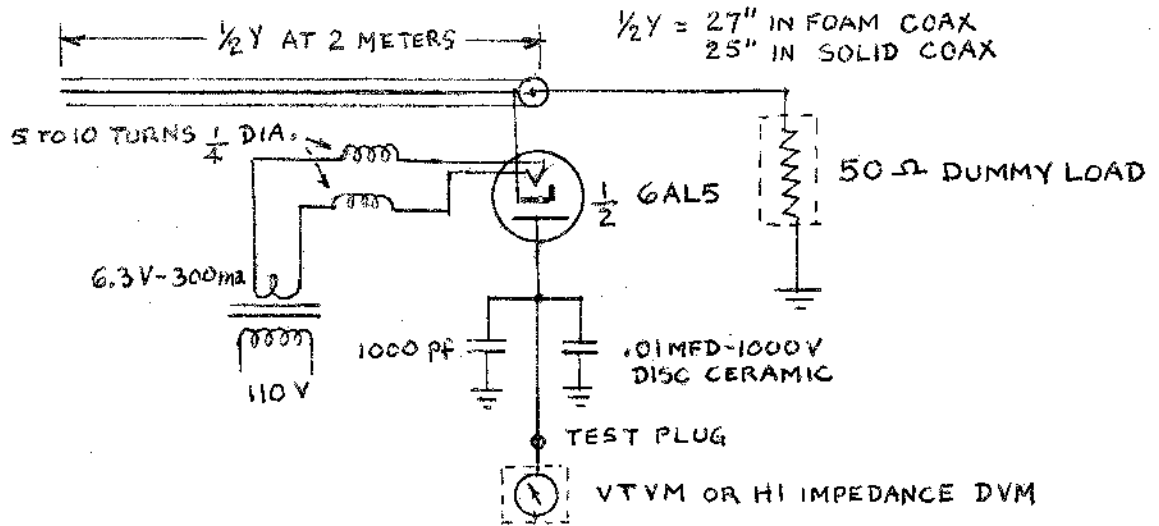
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VISITOR DECEMBER 17, 1981 MEETING

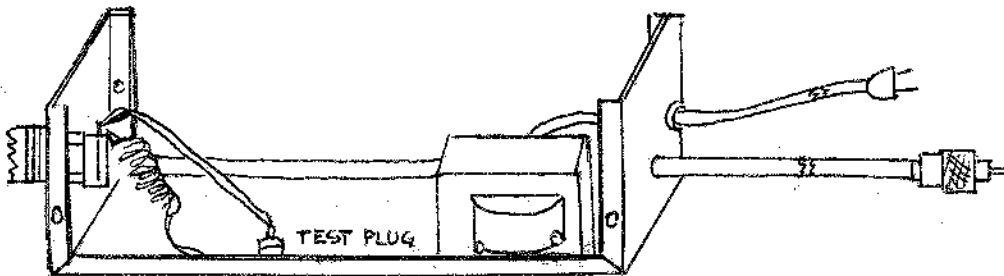
Wendy Simpson (XYL - WB3KES) Lansdale, Pa.

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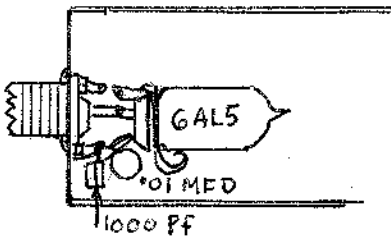
by Richard Prim, WA3IWT



1. Use only one chassis mount coax connector to cut down VSWR problems
2. Since it reads peak voltage power $= \frac{E^2}{2(R)} = W = \frac{E^2}{100}$ in 50Ω system
3. It will operate up to about 500W on low bands, did not check it on high power on VHF
4. Make connections very short to increase accuracy and reduce VSWR on VHF
5. Practical limit appears to be 2 meters, use a good dummy load.
6. Dummy load may be at either end, it is by-directional



DWGS. by Henry Prim, W2CFG



LAST MINUTE SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Complete 6 & 2 SSB Transceiver- 100 Watts
 Drake TR6 + TC2 + CC1 & Pwr Sply - \$800
 2M FM Transceiver - ICOM IC230 - \$175; 220 FM Transceiver
 Clegg FM 21 - \$100. Complete HF Station includes - HQ 110 Rcvr,
 HT-37 Xmtr (100W), Johnson Match Box- Complete \$375,
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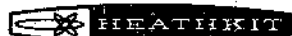
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