

PACK RATS'



PACK RATS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

CHEESE BITS



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

ARNS

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

VOLUME XXIV

MAY, 1982

NUMBER 5

THE PREZ SEZ

At times it seemed like Spring would never arrive after the late snows and high winds, but it's here again and it's time to check the antennas (and garden and grass too). Sporadic season on 6 meters will soon be here and will possibly be a little tame when compared with the F layer and who knows what modes of propagation we've had the last 3 years. And there's likely a few more surprises for observers of the band.

The May meeting brings up two important events for the club - ARRL Night and nominations for new club officers for the coming year. Steve, WB1EYI will be here from ARRL headquarters. Invite your friends to the meeting to get the latest info on League activities and to get some feedback to them on what our views are. Nominations for officers should be cleared with the nominee and the election will be held at the June meeting.

June Contest time is upon us, so please respond to Bill, W3HOT and his band captains for assistance. Help is needed in all areas from the loaning of equipment (always very well taken care of), antenna building, tower and antenna erection, operating, logging, coffee making, and last but not least tear down. You don't have to be an expert - we want and need willing workers - it's fun too!!

Thanks to Bert, K3IUV, for an interesting and informative talk at the April meeting on space television and the space shuttle. He made the very complicated video system sound simple.

73, Harry, W3IIT

P.S. Anyone interested in a Monday Night 220 SSB Net? See Bill, WA2DPU.

* * *

We sadly report that an old friend, James A. Beaver, Jr. W3AHZ became a Silent Key on April 16, 1982. Our condolences to the family.

NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS

By Lyn, W3NSI

1. CODE READER: The AEA Co. has introduced their new MBA RO code reader. This unit features a full 32 character fluorescent display, and can be used on morse, baudot and ASCII. When connected to a communications receiver, it is possible to tune in amateur, weather and news broadcasts. The MBA should be a unique way of demo. amateur radio to guests and SWLs. The MBA uses the audio output of the receiver and operates from 12 VDC. An AC adaptor is available. Price \$299.95 - P.O. Box 2160, Bldg. O&P 2006-196th SW, Lynnwood, WA. 98036

2. LINE SUPPRESSOR: BWJ Technology Inc. is selling a spike, surge and noise suppressor unit called the Quiet Line 6. The unit provides 6 protected receptacles with a total load rating of 15 amps. Transient current surges of 6000 amps can be handled by the unit. Price \$40. Box 6214, Arlington, TX 76011

3. TWO METER PA FOR HTS: The new HL 32V VHF amp is designed to be used with all HT units. Power levels of .2 and 5 watts of input are provided for with an output range of 10-30 watts. All modes of input signals may be used. Unit is mounted in a small case for under dash mounting. LEDs indicate when unit is on and transmitting. Price \$100. Tokyo Hy-power, 2000 Ave. G-Suite 800, Plano, TX 75074.

* * *

VHF/UHF REPORT

By Joe, W2EIF

The bands from 50 MHz up have shown low activity. This may be normal since the advent of Spring usually brings reminders from the XYL that all those jobs (outside) that have accumulated over the Winter need immediate attention. However, there will be some good coastal openings generated so don't spend all your time in the garden or on the lawn.

The Sunspot cycle is well past its peak but 6 meters still is acting like it is the peak, in some sections that is. Locally Jim, N3A~~ff~~ worked LU8AHW on a short opening in the AM on the 6th of April and followed it up with a CW Contact with PP5WL (Brazil) on April 12 about 10:40 AM(Est). The West Coast and Southwest boys have had some excellent openings on 6 into the South Pacific particularly New Zealand. Aurora has been skimpy in the local area. The boys in Conn. report a short AU opening Sat. April 10, but nothing heard here.

* * *

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

CONTINUED

MAY

22/23

World's Fair and Delta Div. Hamfest, Knoxville, Tenn. Here is your chance to see both the new World's Fair and a good Hamfest. Check around there may be special buses and trips available.

23

Bergen County ARC Hamfest - Bergen Community College, Paramus, N.J.

23

LIMARC Hamfest - Islip Speedway, Islip, Long Island, N.Y.

30

Maryland FM Association Hamfest, Howard County Fairgrounds, Harmans, Md.

24

Victoria Day, Canada

30

MEMORIAL DAY

THE JUNE VHF QSO PARTY JUNE 12/13, 1982 W3HQT, CHAIRMAN ASKS FOR YOUR HELP!!!

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

- Y
- 1 National Law Day
- 1 ARRL - EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) Contest - Part II
- 1 23rd Annual Southern Tier Hamfest - Owego, New York
- 2 TriCounty ARC Hamfest - Stirling, N.J. (Passaic Community Center)
- 5 June VHF QSO Party Planning Meeting - QTH, W3KKN
- 8 V E Day - Just as everyone seems to remember where they were when JFK was assassinated, can you recall where you were this one real big day....
- 9 MOTHER'S DAY
- 9 Nixon Impeachment hearings began 1974
- 10 WIAW - ARRL Qualifying Run - 10-35 wpm cw - see how fast and accurate you still are in marking those funny sounds into words...
- 13 Board of Directors Meeting - QTH - Bill Murphy, W0RSJ, 206 Hancock Avenue, Norristown, Pa. Call 262-0558 if lost or for information. Directors and interested club members always invited to participate.
- ~~14~~-15 Atlantic Division Convention and Rochester Hamfest - Rochester, N.Y.
- 14-16 Eighth Annual Eastern VHF/UHF Conference (See Notice)
- 16 Warminster ARC Hamfest, Middletown Grange Fairgrounds, Wrightstown, Pa. A nice local Hamfest. Located off Rt. 413 between Doylestown and Newtown. Come on out and support our neighbor radio club; talk-in 147.69/09 and .52 simplex.
- 15-16 Armed Forces Day
- 17 New York Stock Exchange founded 1792
- 18 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY. Help select the people who will represent your point of view. This is your opportunity to make your thoughts and ideas count and work via your vote. Don't leave it to the other guy or look out for what you will be stuck with for the next 4 years. Every vote counts....
- 20 General Club Meeting - Southampton Free Library, Street Road, 8:00 P.M.
ARRL Nite - A special speaker from League Headquarters. Steve Place, WB1EYI of the Club and training department. The Mario Raffle, Frankie's Silent Auction, Refreshments.
- 20 First gold prospectors leave Sitka for the Yukon 1880.
- 21 American Red Cross Founded 1881
- 22 Saturday - 3rd Annual N.J. Computer Show and Tradefest - Holiday Inn North, Newark Exit (#14) New Jersey Turnpike.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

TID BITS

A note from the Editor - my thanks and appreciation for the good wishes and prayers and the deluge of messages from all my friends during my recent hospitalization. Sylvia and I salute all of you. The special gift from all the Pack-Rats sent me aloft!!

Received a nice note from Johnnie & Loretta (W3CXU) on their recent visit to the West Coast.

W3ZD and W3KKN on a recent fishing trip hit a rock in the road!

Sun Watcher, Jack Power, W2AXU reports the Sunspot No. for March 1982 = 153.7. Smoothed No. for Spetember 1981 = 142.1.

W3CL thanks N3AHI for taking the 6 meter nets and to W3KKN for doing the announcements.

* * *

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

N3BBI - Mike Pandolfo
Star Route Box 10 - 1 - B - 4
Jim Thorpe, Pa. 18229

* * *

A CHANCE TO PUT HAM RADIO FRATERNALISM INTO ACTION

Members and frinds of the Mt. Airy VHF Club are invited to attend a pre-summer brunch and eye ball social gathering sponsored by the Chaverim of Delaware Valley, an organization of Jewish Amateur Radio Operators and their friends, being held at the Plaza, Red Lion Road at Philmont Avenue, Phila., Pa. Sunday, June 13, 1982. The menu will dazzle your eyes and you can partake of the endless quantities of delectable foods from the buffet as many times as you wish. Entertainment is scheduled at 1:00 P.M. Once you have attended this fabulous affair, you will never want to miss another. Members of all faiths are welcome. Price is \$9.50 for adults, tax and gratuity included. Children under 10 are half price. Reservations must be made in advance. For full details, contact Bill Soble, W3QXT, Ph: AC 215-676-6769.

* * *

8th ANNUAL EASTERN VHF/UHF CONFERENCE

The 8th Annual Eastern VHF/UHF Conference will be held May 14-16, 1982 at the Sheraton Inn and Conference Center, I-495 at Rt. 111, Boxboro, MA. Featured will be a Friday night hospitality room, technical talks by well-known VHFers, "rap-sessions" for the various VHF/UHF bands, a banquet, noise figure and antenna measurements, and other activities of interest to the serious VHFer. Registration is \$14.50 from K1LOG, Rick Commo, 3 Pryor Road, Natick, MA. 01760 before May 10. Registration at the door is \$20.00. (Prices unchanged from last year) The Sat. night banquet, featuring roast sirloin of beef, costs \$14.00 payable before May 10. The Sheraton has a special "Weekender" package for two persons staying two nights in one room. Otherwise mention the Conference when making reservations with the hotel. Other accomodations are available nearby.

Best Regards, Lewis D. Collins, W1GXT

* * *

ARRL BULLETIN NR 32 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT APRIL 8, 1982 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT: At an Open Agenda meeting on April 1, 1982 the FCC eliminated two sections of the Amateur Regulations, as part of an ongoing review of rules to prune out those which are no longer necessary. Sec. 97.71 required an adequately filtered DC plate power supply for transmitters operating below 144 MHz, Sec. 97.74 required a means of measuring frequency independent of the transmitter itself. Cancellation of these 2 rules represents a change in regulatory philosophy from how to observe the rules to what the result should be. Other rules still in place require an amateur signal be clean & it be in band. The same meeting adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule-making which would provide new frequencies for model control in the 72 to 76 MHz range. AR.

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Phone: 213-507-8195

* * *

NEW HAMTRONICS KITS

Continuing in their tradition of constantly offering new models advancing with the state of the art, Hamtronics, Inc. has announced several new products recently developed in their communications lab.

The R76 VHF FM Receiver Kit is a new improved version of the popular R75 Receiver for 10M, 6M, 2M, 220 MHz, or the adjacent commercial bands. It features a very low noise front end, pump-resistant squelch with hysteresis to lock onto fading signals, on-board volume and squelch controls for easy wiring, and fixed IF filters for easy alignment. It has also been reduced in size - now only 3-1/4x4 inches. It is available in two selectivity options, starting at \$84.95.

A new uhf receiver kit has also been introduced. The model R451 includes the features listed above plus automatic frequency control to lock onto drifting transmit signals. Kits are available with various options starting at \$94.95. One interesting option is a proportional controlled crystal oven - great for building uhf repeaters.

With the advent of very-low-noise transistors for satellite TV receivers, Hamtronics has an interesting new line of Low Noise Amplifiers. In appearance, they resemble the popular R40 and P432 Receiver Preamps, but the circuit is new. The new LNA 28, LNA 50, LNA 144, LNA 220, and LNA 432 units are optimized for lowest noise figure at the ham bands, but they can also be used on adjacent commercial bands. The LNA 432 also provides very good gain and noise figure for UHF TV signals and the new 800 MHz commercial band. Noise figures typically run 0.5 dB at 28 and 50 MHz, 0.6 dB at 144 MHz, 0.7 dB at 220 MHz, and 0.95 dB at 432 MHz. Gain runs from 33dB at 28 and 50 MHz to 17 dB at 432 MHz. Best of all, the price is only \$39.95 for the vhf units and \$44.95 for the uhf unit, all wired and tested.

With the frequent launching of the Space Shuttle, many have asked for a special version of the Hamtronics R110-450 UHF AM Aircraft Receiver to listen to the Shuttle. Exceptionally good results have been reported using simple uhf antennas. Most of the interesting conversations occur with the Shuttle over the U.S., so this is fast becoming a fascinating amateur sideline activity. The special Shuttle Receiver Kit is now available off the shelf at only \$94.95. Call for details on this unit.

For further info. on their entire line of vhf and uhf receivers, transmitters, converters, amplifiers, and related products, write to Hamtronics, Inc., 65-V Moul Rd; Hilton NY 14468-9535 or call 716-392-9430. A complete catalog will be mailed on request. (For overseas mailing, please enclose \$1 or 3 IRC's).

* * *

AMATEUR RADIO FELLOWSHIP MEETINGS

There will be an ATV demonstration and lecture given by Ron Cohen, K3ZKO, at a meeting of the Greater Northeast Phila. Amateur Radio Fellowship on Monday, May 24th, 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. The June 28th program will be a film on the Historic English Expedition to the South Pole in 1910-13 led by Captain Robert F. Scott. For further information call either Al, W3AYJ, 725-2864; Joe, K3RFL, 698-8051 or Dan, K3HES, 338-7946.

* * *

GRANDFATHER OF STEREOPHONIC SOUND WAS BAYONNE RESIDENT

To the Editor: I received the following letter from my brother Morris J. Spivack, living in Sweden.

"There was a notice in the press recently about the Father of Stereophonic Sound. But the "Grandfather" of Stereophonic Sound is still alive at the age of 78! He is Morris J. Spivack, New York lawyer, one-time resident of Bayonne, who has been living abroad for the past 25 years.

Many engineers have contributed to the development of the process of producing stereophonic sound. First and foremost among whom we must put the California wizard noted above. But the fundamental process itself first appears in the Patent Office Records in the patent application dated December, 1930 for a "Process of producing binaural sound" invented by Morris J. Spivack.

In 1977 Mr. Spivack filed a new application for a patent on a process of producing doubly binaural sound. This was rejected on purely procedural grounds, not merit.

The inventor is now considering making this invention a gift to the public, if a suitable scientific journal can be found to publish it in full."

Mrs. A. Seldon

P.S. A self portrait of Spivack as a violinist is enclosed.
(SUBMITTED BY W3AYJ)

* * *

JOTTINGS

Thanks to the XL

Money is a terrible master, but an excellent servant...

The real objective of a committee is not to reach a decision, but to avoid one...

There is no point to worrying about apathy when you can't care less...

A dirt book is seldom dusty....

"off the top of the head" ideas are often like dandruff - small and flaky....

If at first you don't succeed -- so much for skydiving....

"Push" is the force exerted upon the door marked PULL

If you can tell the difference between good advice and bad advice, you don't need advice...

You can never tell which way the train went by looking at the tracks...

Never, ever play leapfrog with a unicorn.....

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| 7:30 PM - 50.125 MHZ | W3CL-W3HQY |
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