# PACK RATS



# ECHEELSE ENERGIE

R B R

KAIS

CLUB CALL: W3CCX

MT. ARY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC., PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA (ARNS) (50.2, 145.2, 221.4, 432.03 & 1296.3 Mhz) Repeater 222.98/224.58

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

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VOLUME XVI

SEPTEMBER, 1974

NUMBER 9

#### THE PREZ SEZ

The Pack Rat annual picnic was held August 11 at the Fort Washington State Park. Turnout was exceptionally good with over 200 registered guests plus numerous children. Fair weather prevailed, contributing to the good time shared by all. Thanks to K3IGX and his committee for a fine outing.

Don't forget the white elephant sale at this months meeting. Joe, W3YXF, our host, has plenty of parking and a large yard ideally suited for handling many white elephants.

The Pack Rat 200 Mhz repeater has been at the factory for some time now undergoing rather extensive redesign and modification. Hopefully, the machine will be back in service by the time you read this and working better than ever. We regret the inconvenience to our many users, but feel the anticipated improvement in reliability and operating range will be worth the wait.

As of last count, there are only  $\underline{6}$  FM-21 units still available at the special club price. If interested see Harry in a hurry.

Due to the underwhelming success of last months cipher, we have another little subcranial conundrum to obfuscate your perspicuity and frustrate your perspicacity.

WAYNE GREEN SOLVED LAST
EFGHI JKIIH MNOPIV OFMR
SNHRTM UKGZRNJKFS. THE VWV GNX VN?
MONTHS CRYPTOGRAM. LOW DID YOU DO.

RON WASAXV

Solution to last months crypto:

Don't NIT-PICK! Come to the pic-nic!

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.

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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/K3ACR 221.4 9:00 P.M. K3GAS 432.03 9130 P.M. K3IUV 1296.3 10:00 P.M. **WAHKA** 

FRIDAY NIGHT ATV NET: MET CONTROL 7:00 P.M. K3ZKO/WA3AXV

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# CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS Syllabus by Lee, K3MXM

#### EPTEMBER

- 1 19th Annual York County Hamfest Elickers Grove Thomasville, Penna. 10 Miles west of York, Pa. off U.S. Rt. 30. A real good flea market, plenty of tail-gaters, picnic facilities and prize drawings, contests-9 A.M. till 4:30.
- Hamarama Committee Meeting Qth K3MXM Come one -- Come all.

  VHF QSO Contest see August QST page 52 for full details and point counting. Starts 1900 GMT Saturday, Sept. 7 to 0600 GMT Monday Sept. 9. A good contest to enter and tune up equipment and antennas for January Contest and Space Net Contests.
- South Jersey Radio Club picnic and hamfest Molia Farms, Malaga, N.J. A real nice day in the country besides a country lake. Big flea market, manufacturers displays, prizes and contests. Easy to get to just go South on Rt. #47 (Delsea Drive) approximately one hour from the Turnpike Bridge. Don't forget to stop at some of the famous Jersey Road stands and bring home some of that famous Jersey corn.
- Board of Directors Meeting Qth W3SAO Frankie Brick 821 Lindley Ave., Phila., Pa. If lost call 324-7524. Directors and interested parties invited.
- Panther Valley, N.J. Hammievention #4. Get in touch with John W. Richardt, Jr. 94 Bald Eagle, Hackettstown, N.J. 07840 phone (201) 852-3475.
- 14-16 Pennsylvania QSO Party 2300 Z Sept 14 to 0200 Z Sept 16th. Full details page 87 August QST or Nittany ARC Box 60 State College, Pa. 16801.
- Sercom picnic and meeting Manheim Township Community Park, Neffs-ville, Pa. 12 noon till?
- General Club Meeting last outdoor meeting of the season.

  WHITE ELEPHANT SALE bring those "goodies" to the sale in a S E A L E D box and watch the fun as the auctioning goes on. Proceeds 100% to the club. Qth W3YXF Joe Rushton 107 Rosewood Drive Lansdale, Pa. If lost call 855-7799.
- Delaware Valley Chapter QCWA. Dinner meeting at Buck Hotel in Feaster-ville, Pa.
- BARCC Directors and Delegates meet at the Ben Franklin Hotel in Phila., site of the ARRL Atlantic Division Convention in 1976. Dinner at 7:00 P.M., meeting at 8:30 P.M.

### · TID BIT

Carl, WA2MWB hosted an FB Directors meeting at his apartment Qth in Clementon, New Jersey. A long lost Pack-Rat was there - a slimmed down Lloyd, WA2KOI (My man in St. L ouis).

#### P . 🥕

# NEW PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO HAMS by Lynn, W3NSI

- 1. Solid State 2 M Amplifiers Vibratrol Div. of EGI has entered the ham market with a line of 2 meter amplifiers giving power outputs of 40 to 150 watts with either 3 or 10 watts input. Units are used on 12 VDC with FM, AM, CW, or SSB modes. For CW and SSB operation, a relay delay can be added for a cost of 5 dollars, preventing switchover to receiver between dits and dahs. Models are also available for 6 and 10 meters. Prices range \$100-200.

  505 Harvester Court Wheeling, Ill. 60090
- 2. Frequency Counters Hewlett Packard, a name normally associated with much higher priced equipment, now has two Counters in the ham market. Both use LED readouts. The #5381A covers the range 10 hz to 80 Mhz, and the #5382A covers 10 hz to 225 Mhz. Readouts are 7 and 8 digits. Both models have 3 position attenuators. 80 Mhz \$249 225 Mhz \$450 1501 Page Mill Road Palo Alto, Calif. 94304
- 3. Wattmeter Dycomm has introduced a bidirectional wattmeter for use on 2 meters. Power in watts can be read directly on the meter both forward and reflected. Four ranges can be switched in 10-50-100-500 watts. Input and output coax fittings are on the front panel. Price \$50.

  Dynamic Comm. Inc. 948 Ave. E Riviera Beach, Florida 33404

# by Lee, K3MXM

Special Call Sign - WSLACR The Newport County Radio Club will be operating this station in conjunction with the America's Cup Races through September 30th. All bands, CW, SSB plus 2 M and 6 M, QSL to Box 36, Broadway Station, Newport, R.I. 02840

CB Service Hits a New High The FCC reports that in June '61, 859 Class D - CB licenses were issued bringing the total for 6 months to 194,810. Amateur Radio Operator licenses for the month of June totaled 6,400. These facts make the lesson very evident.

HAMS and RFI - de Texas Lone Star Bulletin It seems that some radio amateurs are having trouble with the electronic systems in the Volkswagens. Twenty meter (14 Mhz) operation of a transmitter with an antenna on the rear bumper will kill the engine. On other bands or with different antenna positions the problem disapperas. One of the newer problems for EMC engineers and one that will continue to get worse unless car manufacturers start using EMC engineers in their electronic system design stage. Who remembers the stories of lighting up the tail lights and forcing the brakes on various models with 6 meter rf?

Calming an Irate Neighbor with TVI, BCI or Hi-Fi - I can be much easier with the help of FCC Bulletin "Interference to Audio Devices." In the booklet the FCC points out that certain interference-eliminating components are omitted from most home entertainment devices because users never need them, and suggest that a letter or phone call to the manufacturer will usually help in clearing up the problem.

#### TID BIT

While trying out for the cast of Evil Knievel's movie, Dick Pierce, K3MWV, recently sustained a leg injury when his motorcycle came out from under him. He then retaliated by doing some additional work on putting up a tower. Unfortunately he ended up in the cast, with only his leg being in it.

### THIS IS YOUR LIFE (THE PACK RATS) Part #2 "A Constitution and By-Laws"

The September meeting was held at the Chelten Hills Recreation Center. Acting chairman W3FSC conducted the opening of the meeting. A Constitution and By-Laws a was presented to the members present. This document was drafted by W3CPT. After discussion and revisions, this Consittution and By-Laws was unanimously adopted by the 17 members present, September 25, 1956. The second of the second

A special meeting was called the same night to elect a slate of officers for the year 1956-57 to NOMINATIONS: C President W3FSC (13) elected been set as a second of a second of the second of the

W3TYX (4)
Vice-President W3ZEY (11) elected BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Nominations W3VCN (6) W3IBH (14) elected for 2yr.tern A Commence Applied Applied to the second the North Constitution of the Constitution of the Secretary W3SAO (17) elected W3KKN (13) n n i i 1 yr.term W3CL (9) Treasurer W3CPT (14) elected W3TYX (6) waroz (3) W3RZU (2) W3ALR (5) W3VOC (5) M3NKD(S)W3HWV (2) W3CCX (5) W3UMI (2) W3HYO (3)

The first meeting of the Board of Directors was to be held in October. Members present and accepted by the Mt. Airy V.H.F. Radio Club under the Constitution and By-Laws:

W3ZEY W3TYX W3HYO W3HWV W3UMI W3DRC W3VGN W3CPT W3FSC W3ALR W3VOC W3FOZ W3CCX W3OZP W3SAO W3IBH W3KKN W3CL

The October meeting featured a talk by Mike Ercolino, W2BDS who was introduced by W3IBH. The talk was on the development of beam arrays and how to stack them. Mike donated two beams as door prizes. W30ZP won a 3 element Telrex Beam and W3QAS won a 6 element Telrex Beam. W3NSI won a lagel call letter pin. The attendance was 50 hams and XYL's present.

Members: W3CL W3CPT W3FSC W3HWV W3HYO W3IBH W3RZU W3SAO W3ZEY W3DRC W3KKN W3OZP W3UMI W3VGN

Applications for membership: W3QB W3AJF W3UQM

in the state of th Our first "Ladie's Nite" was held at the November 14th meeting. President W3FSC announced the XYL's would take over the meeting and assume the office of their OM's.

PRESIDENT: XYL of W3FSC VICE-PRESIDENT: XYL of W3NKD, TREASURER: XYL of W3CPT SECRETARY: XYL of W3SAO. The ladies proceeded to conduct the meeting and adjourned it at 9:00 P.M. and turned the meeting over to the OM's. A sports film on Ice Skating was shown also movies of the August Picnic were shown. Refreshments all made by the XYL's were enjoyed by all. The ladies were thanked for their co-operation in making our first "Ladie s Nite" a success.

ing per service to the first of the period of the contraction of the c The December meeting was devoted to the January V.H.F. S.S. W3KKN gave a detailed account on the proper methods of operation and scoring. W3IBH also gave us the benefit of his know how on 2 meters. All members having 2 or 6 meter rigs promised to participate in the contest and turn their score over to W3KKN or W3SAO, as soon as possible.

APPLICANTS VOTED IN ON DECEMBER 19, 1956: WSFUL WSJAY WSAJE WSUQM WSNXT W3CXU W3UKI

An ALMO gift certificate was won by W3DHH.

(To be continued) Frankie W3SAO Club Historian

# FRANKFORD CB'ers KEEP LOW PROFILE by Tony - W3HMU

During the month of June 1974, the Scott Research air monitoring van made air pollution measurements in the Frankford section of Philadelphia as part of a Penn Dot highway study. Pack-Rats will remember this van as the one used for our "home brew" exhibit at the 1973 Hamarama. It's a Winnebago camper truck converted into a mobile air monitoring laboratory.

After the van was on location for about a week in one Frankford neighborhood, a young boy from the neighborhood asked the van's crew if they had caught any CB'ers After he had been convinced by the van's crew that they were not connected with the FCC, but were in fact making air pollution measurements, the young boy told the van crew that all the unlicensed CB operators in the area had very carefully stayed off the air that week to avoid detection by what they thought was an FCC monitoring crew.

Apparently the recent FCC policing of clandestine CB operations has caused some anxiety to those who indulge in the CB form of "air pollution."

# SPACE NET CONTEST RESULTS July 20-21, 1974 Winners

CLASS I lst - W2EIF

2nd - WA2PBZ

CLASS II lst - K3GQC

2nd - W3ETB

CLASS III lst - WA2EFV

2nd - WA3HOW

CLASS IV lst - WA3NBQ

lst Place - Mobile 6 ers (K3GQC)
2nd Place - Warminster (WA3HOW)

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS.

We attended the last of the minifests at Tony's where Joe W2EIF received his award. Many of the Space Net gang were there and enjoyed the memorable WB2MTU hospitality. Best wishes for a job well done Tony.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 496 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT AUGUST 15 1974 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

FCC has proposed a new schedule of fees for nearly all radio services, to comply with a recent ruling by the Supreme Court. The principal criterion laid down by the court is the value to the recipient. For amateurs, the basic fee would be six dollars for a five year license, as opposed to nine dollars at present and ten dollars in the 1972 proposal which has never become effective. Modifications without renewal are proposed at five dollars, against four now and five in the 1972 list. Special call sign fees would remain at twenty five dollars. Novice licenses, RACES authorizations and military recreation stations would continue to be free of charge. Comments are due by September 20 and reply comments by October 4, making reference to Docket 19658. The procedural requirement of an original and fourteen copies applies as usual. AR



## MT. AIRY V.H.F. RADIO CLUB, INC.

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(Club rig-good condition) \$50.00

Contact: Rich Pattison, K3ACR

(215)885-3830

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# THE PICNIC REPORT by Dick, K3IGX, Chairman

Inother successful picnic has come and gone with an attendance of over 200. The reather was very favorable, in fact, the nicest day in years.

want to take this opportunity to thank the following members who were a great telp to me: K3GAS, W3CL, K3ACR, K3JJZ, K3MXM, W3ELX, K3EOD, W3SAO and Helen and Harry, K3DLS, W3KKN, W2EIF, WA3DJF, WA3JUF and WA3AXV.

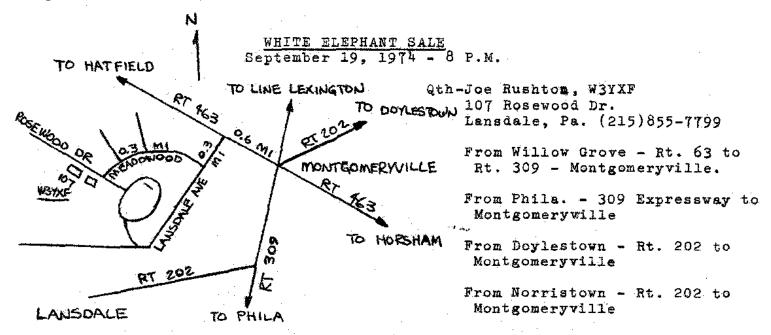
There were 10 Delaware Valley clubs represented and two visitors from a long disance away - Simon, G3ZKE from London and Jack, K9CUN from Terra Haute, Indiana. 5 members of the QCWA, Delaware Valley Chapter joined the fun as well as Connie-lac, W3SW the Atlantic Division Director.

believe nearly everyone received a prize and thanks to the following donors:

The Pack Rats - Helen Brick (Mother Rat) - Ham Buerger, Inc. - Tab

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Radio Amateur Callbook, Inc. - 73 Magazine - Heath Co. - K3ACR 
W3SAO



CENTRAL STATES VHF SOCIETY VHF CONFERENCE, 1974
by John B. Power, W2AXU

he CSVHFS held their annual VHF conference in Boulder, Colorado on August 16, 17 nd 18, 1974. The conference was well attended by many serious VHFers representing all call districts and VE3 from Canada. Approximately 100 radio amateurs ere registered, many with their families.

he conference started Friday morning, Aug. 16th with a Society business meeting. fficers for the coming year were elected - President W5BXG, Charles Calhoun, ulsa, Oklahoma, Vice-President W5WAX, Sam Whitley, Muskogee, Oklahoma, ecretary W4FF, Ted Mathewson, Richmond, Virginia.

ext years conference will be held in the Tulsa, Oklahoma area on August 15, 16, 2d 17, 1975.

trip was made to Fort Collins, Colorado to tour the facilities of the National

Bureau Standard radio station WWV-WWVB.

The afternoon session began with a presentation by Don Hilliard, WEYE, on "The Techniques of Making a Parabolic Reflector of Wood Construction and a Large Disk of Metal Construction." This presentation was most interesting. The projects are highly ambitious, but result in very satisfactory, almost commercial like, parabolic reflectors. A paper was available with the details of construction, design information and photographs.

The second presentation of the afternoon was made by Dick Davis of the National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, Colorado on "The Use of the Television Network Color Subcarrier as a Frequency Reference." The four major television networks in the U.S.A. use rubidium atomic frequency standards to generate their color reference signals. The NBS checks these signals and publishes the off-sets. Your color TV receiver locks onto the color subcarrier signal. When your set is tuned to a network program, its internal 3.58 Mhz oscillator generates a replica of the atomic oscillator signal at the network studio. With some electronics you can have a highly accurate calibrating source.

The Saturday session started at 8 A.M. with an interesting presentation by Jan King, W3GEY, Vice-President of AMSAT on "Oscar 7 and Beyond."

Bruce Clark, K6JYO and Vic Frank, WB6KAP presented movies and tapes of the WA6LET moonbounce operation.

Carl Scheidler, W2AZL, of Bell Telephone Laboratories discussed "Solid State 2 meter Converters." This information is a must for serious 2 meter operators. He discussed pre-amplifiers, FET ballanced mixers and filters.

Joe Reisert, W6FZJ/l of Alpha Corp. followed and discussed "VHF-UHF Solid State Receiver Designs." Joe went into much detail of the design of VHF/UHF converter circuits. He particularly stressed the advantages of modular construction such as a good well filtered local oscillator which can be used time and time again to control experimental RF and mixer modules. His thoughts are very worth while considering in constructing new equipment.

Gary Grey W6KJD/K6QED of Hughes Ground Systems continued the VHF/UHF receiver design discussion with his presentation on "Filter Design." He discussed many types of filters for use in converters and their design and construction.

Marshall Williams, WA5UNL, of Tulsa, Oklahoma discussed the construction of a 2 neter amplifier and an array of 2 meter antennss for use in moonbounce operation. Marshall, not being a mechanic by his own admission, used pieces and parts as they are available or as he put it - "The natural order of things." The projects are successful as attested by his successful operations.

The banquet was held Saturday evening at which time the John T. Chambers Memorial Award was presented. The award was won this year by Dick Knadle, K2RIW. Dick was not present this year, but Mrs. John T. Chambers was and she presented the award to Dick through Carl, W2AZL. The guest speaker of the evening was Tom Mc Mullin, W1SL, of the ARRL. Many fine prizes were awarded following Tom's fine talk.

The Sunday morning session consisted of a Moonbounce Panel and Discussion which provided much thought-provoking discussion. My first attendance of these VHF conferences was in 1969 at Boulder, Colorado. It is interesting to note that at that time there were only two East Coast attendees - WIHDØ and myself. This year

Central States VHF Society VHF Conference contid

the East Coast was well represented and - of all things - by three Pack Rats - W2AXU, K3ZSG and K2EVW - and one ex-Pack Rat - K2RTH (better known as K2RG). Others from the area were WA2WOM, W2UK and W2AXL.

It was a most interesting conference technically, as usual, and socially. It's great to meet old friends and to make new ones. See you all in Oklahoma next August.

## VHF REPORT by Jo. WEETF

The VHF bands have been relatively quiet. People on vacation and other activities seem to have taken more of their time. Net activity has dropped down also due to the same reasons. WEZMTU's space net contest July 20-21 perked things up a little. I found the contest a lot of fun.

The big activity on two meters during the last half of July and the first half of August has to do with communications over relatively long distances on 2 meters using the reflections obtained from meteor trails. There are two meteor showers available namely, The Aquarids-July 26-31. This shower is overlapped by the Perseids which occur July 27 to August 14. If you are interested, there is a table in the front of the ARRL VHF hand book, detailing the various meteor showers available. The Perseids, which recently occurred, were used by this writer to work WØLER in Minnesots and KØWLU in South Dakots. The latter was worked while calling CQ Random 1.e. without previously scheduling.

It has always been the theory that large antennas and high power were required. This was disproved recently when WHDFK in Virginia worked 5 or 6 new states including Texas using 80 watts of 888 and an 8 element beam. 432 Mns has been good at times, but with little activity. Have heard WLDXX, KLAQP/1 and others in the Boston Area, but not much else.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 495 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON OF AUGUST 8 1974 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

The ARRI Intruder Watch is celebrating its tenth anniversary with a drive for more volunteers to help in the aggressive preparations for the World Administrative Radio Conference to be held in 1979. Reporting cases of harmful interference from stations of other services operating in the amateur bands and developing related statistics will be useful ammunition during the upcoming WARC. If you can spend an hour or so a week helping to defend the amateur radio service, write for detailed instructions to ARRI Intruder Watch, 285 Main Street, Newington, Ct. Obill AR

### TID BITS

Don Cooper, K3WCK and XYL, Virginia, were flying from Philadelphia to Pompano Jeach, Florida to Visit With K4UV and family. Don, and exections pilot, who fly a lim own well equipped twin engine aircraft was last heard from on Sunday, August lith at 12:15 P.M. near Savannah, Ga. They never arrived their destination. The lext morning at daybreak, a massive search was launced by the "CAP" and the locat Guard. The search continued all that week with no trace of the aircraft. Our prayers are with Bruce, K3WGJ and his sister Dona.

the August outdoor meeting hested by Dos. K3GAS and Leretta was a gala affair. The ladies expecially seemed to enjoy the alides, the refreshments and the socialability. We were particularly pleased to see Ray. W3ERR and Eleanor both looking exceptionally well. A Pack Rat, W3GXU, who has been very busy lately, showed up smiling all the way.

THIRD ANNUAL

# HAMARAMA

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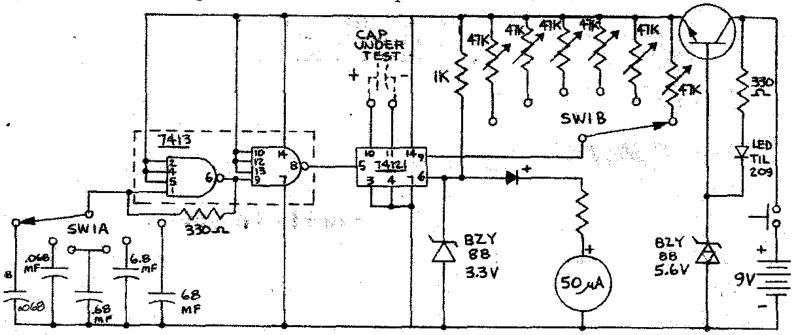
PHONE: 215 645 4942

## A CAPACITY METER

by Bob Falmer, G5PP from Midland Amateur Radio Sockety News Letter

To those who would like to have an exercise with the use of IC's and also find the value of those capacitors in the junk box, which have long since had their values rubbed off, the unit described will prove of interest.

The circuit is straight forward and when completed works very well indeed and gives direct reading of the values of capacitor under test.

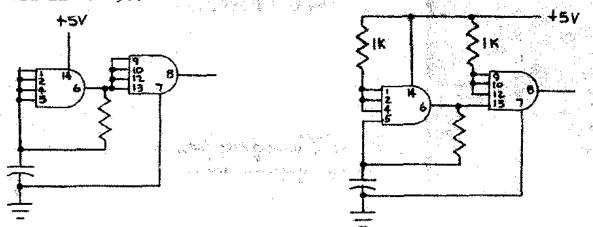


All pots are the sub-miniature preset type, all capacitors are 12v transistor types and the values are not critical.

Calibrate by using 1% tolerance capacitors across the test points and adjusting the appropriate pot for full scale reading.

Range 1... 0-100pf. use 100pf +/-1% Range 4... 0-0.lmf, use 0.lmf 1% Range 2... 0-1000pf. 1000pf 1% Range 5... 0-1mf. 1mf 1% Range 3... 0-0.0lmf. 1000pf 1% Range 6... 0-10mf, 10mf 1% Range 3... 0-10mf, 10mf 1% Range 6... 0-10mf, 10mf 1% The unit consumes about 40mA so just press switch long enough to find range

Editorial Comment - Manufacturers of integrated circuits recommend that unused gate inputs are either connected to used inputs or taken to the plus rail via a 1K resistor. Pins 2,4 and 5 of the 7413 above could be connected to pin 1, and 10, 12, and 13, connected to pin 9, or pins 2,4,5 via 1K to +5v, and pins 10, 13,12, via 1K to +5v.



Cheese Bits 2087 Parkdale Ave. Glenside, Pa. 19038

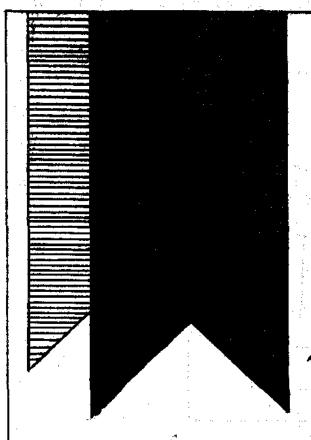


MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

MEETING NOTICE

W3FQD Dick Huntzinger 130 Fairhill Drive Churchville, Pa. 18966

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