



MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC.

SCANNED TO PDF BY BERT, K3IUV, 2013

MT. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB., "THE PACK RATS", PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA NET FREQUENCIES: 50.125, 144.150, 222.125, 224.58/222.98, 432.110, 903.100, 1296.100 MHz AFFILIATED CLUB: AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE ARNS

> Third Thursday of each month at 8:00 PM Meetings:

Southampton Free Library, 947 E. Street Road

Southampton, Pennsylvania 19866

VOLUME XXXIII

SEPTEMBER 1991

NUMBER 9

THE PREZ SEZ

As I begin to write this, it appears that Hurricane Bob has spared our area. Our friends in New England are in for a rough time, however. Are you prepared to assist if such an emergency was to strike our area? The last time that the Pack Rats were called upon was for tropical storm Agnes in 1970. That was at a time when FM was just becoming popular for ham communications. A considerable amount of priority traffic was handled on the VHF frequencies.

The Pack Rat picnic is now history and it was another great day at the Hackfords'. The weather was pleasant and there was plenty of good food for all. I want to take this opportunity o thank Dave and Sylvia for their hospitality. It is rumored that the smoke from the grills helped keep the rain at bay.

As September approaches, we can look forward to indoor club meetings and the VHF contest. I plan to operate my station multi-op with a few friends who recently became licensed. I can't think of any better way to demonstrate VHF/UHF communicationsm and fun. Hope to hear many Rats active that weekend.

Remember that HAMARAMA is just around the corner! Please volunteer your help; don't wait to be asked. Garden State Park is a big facility and we'll need more help than ever before. You may want to consider staying at one of the many hotels located near the conference hall and race track.

73, William T. Murphy WØRSJ

SEPTEMBER MEETING: THE PACK RATS RETURN TO INDOOR MEETINGS AT THE LIBRARY ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19. An AT&T engineer will present a discussion on fiber optic and microwave communications. Mario's Raffle, Frankie's Silent Auction, and refreshments for all.

Pack Rats CHEESE BITS is a publication of the Mt. AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB, INC. Philadelphia, Pa. and is published monthly. SUBSCRIPTION RATE - \$7.00 PER YEAR

We operate on an exchange basis with other publications. Anything that is printed in CHEESE BITS may be reprinted, unless otherwise stated, provided proper credit is given.

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES AND SWAP SHOP IS THE 20TH DAY OF THE MONTH, NON-COMMERCIAL SWAP SHOP ITEMS - FREE OF CHARGE.

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PACK RAT 220 FM REPEATER - W3CCX/RPTR 222.98/224.58 MHz, CHURCHVILLE, PA

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MONDAY NIGHT NETS NET CONTROL 7:30 PM - 50.125 W3CL + K3EOD8:00 PM - 144.150 W2EIF 8:30 PM - 222.125 WC2K 8:30 PM - 224.58/R K3ACR 9:00 PM - 432.110 **WA3AXV** 9:30 PM - 1296.100 WASNUF 10:00 PM - 903.100 N3AOG

VHF CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN:

KB3XG, JOHN SORTOR (215) 766-2643

HAMARAMA CHAIRMAN:

K3EOD, AL BOBLITT (215) 742-3312

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS By Harry Brown, W3IIT

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Labor Day
- 9 Rosh Hashanan
- Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club Board of Directors meeting will be held at a QTH to be announced. Listen-up on the club repeater for info. Board members and all interested parties are welcome.
- 14-16 September VHF QSO Party. Starts 1800 UTC Saturday and continues through 0300 UTC Monday. See August QST page 81 for rules. Get on and at least give out a few points.
 - 15 SJRA Hamfest at the Pennsauken High School in Pennsauken, NJ. Talk-in on 144.69/145.29.
 - The Hall of Science ARC Hamfest will be held at the New York Hall of Science parking lot, Flushing Meadow Park in Queens, NY. Talk-in on 147.195 rptr.
 - 18 Yom Kippur
 - 19 First indoor meeting of the fall season of the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club will be held at the Southampton Free Library on Street Road in Southampton, Pa. All members and interested VHFers are invited to meet and share with us.
- 21-22 ARRL 10 CHz Cumulative Contest. See June QST, page 82 for rules.
- 21-22 York Hamfest sponsored by the York ARC and Keystone VHF Club and Hilltop Transmitting Society. Talk-in on 146.37/.97
 - 22 LIMARC Hamfest will be held at the NY Institute of Technology, Route 25A in Old Westbury. Talk-in on 146.25/.85.
 - 26 CRRL Fall VHF/UHF Sprint on 903 through 3456 MHz. Starts 7 PM local time on September 26 and continues to 12 AM on September 27. Operate a maximum of 4 hours. See September QST page 88 for rules.
 - 28 Elmira International Hamfest/Computerfest will be held at the Chemung County Fairgrounds, Horseheads, NY.

OCTOBER

- 2 CRRL Fall VHF/UHF Sprint on 432 MHz. Starts 7 PM on Oct. 2 and continues to 12 AM on Oct. 3. Operate a maximum of 4 hours. See Sept. QST page 88.
- Mid-Atlantic WHF Conference will be held at the Woodland Fire Hall, Route 38 and Beechwood Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ. Admission \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door (includes Hamarama). For further details, contact Chairman John Sortor, KB3XG, at 215-354-1635.
- 6 Mt. Airy WHF Radio Club "HAMARAMA" will be held at the Garden State Race Park, Route 70 and Cornell Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ. Note new location! Unlimited parking (how about that!). Talk-in on 146.52 and 223.5.

PROPAGATION REPORT By Paul Drexler, WB3JYO

Conditions during the month of August have been better than expected, with fair tropo conditions for the August UHF Contest and a very productive Perseids meteor shower.

During the weekend of August 2-3 propagation was about average for the August UHF Contest. The N3CX/WA3JUF multi-op team did however report some enhancement during late Saturday night and early Sunday morning. N3CX reports enhancement on 432 MHz to grids EN82 and EM89. Dave also noted good conditions on 2304 during the period with 9 grids worked! During the evening of August 9, a large weather front moved through our area bringing rain followed by a brief period of 2 meter band enhancement with W8's and W9's worked by local stations. 6 meter openings have been sparse lately, despite the "roller coaster" solar flux values. On the 11th, six opened briefly to Texas and Nebraska via E-skip.

The Perseids meteor shower provided the real highlight for the month, providing exceptionally good QSO range over a 4 day period which peaked on the 12th. The predicted peak times were from 0500-0800z for SW/NE paths, and from 1400-1700z for SW/NE paths. WB3JYO got in on the shower for several hours on the morning of the 12th and noted a very productive operating session. In just 2 hours of operating time, 9 random MS QSO's were completed on 2 meters to grids EL89, EM74, EM75, EM94, and EM12. Meteor bursts were at first infrequent and lasted for less than 10 seconds around 1400z but during the apparent peak of the shower from 1530-1600z, the "burns" lasted from 15 to 20 seconds, occurring almost every minute. The evening period however, from 0600 - 0700z (during the NW/SE peak) was unfruitful with only several bursts heard. Even so, conditions were clearly improved over the past 2-3 years. Gene, W3ZZ, reported via the Pack Pat 222 MHz net that the shower helped him bag 4 new grids and 3 new states on 220 and 9 new grids on 144 including a QSO with a CO2KK in Cuba!

These great meteor scatter reports fortify W9IP's theory that decreased sunspot activity allows more meteors to ionize in the upper atmosphere where they're most useful for radio contacts. As the solar cycle swings down, we can look forward to better MS propagation. This year's Perseids was reminiscent of the conditions that were typical in 1985/86; the 2 meter band sounded almost like a contest at times! Next good shower is the Geminids in December.

73, CU in the next shower!

Late-breaking VHF DX report: On August 26 at 0130z, KlHTV/3 (FM18 Md), worked VK4BRG on 50.120 MHz. via an apparent multi-hop E-skip path which lasted all of about 6 minutes. KlHTV alerted VK4BRG via 28.885 net that signs of the possibility for a 2-way were evident on six. The contact was monitored by several stations at each end including W3ZZ who forwarded info for this report.

NEW SHF DX RECORD from WESTLINK Report

Two new world microwave records were set on Sunday, July 29 when Paul Leib, KH6HME at the 8200 foot level of the Mona Loa volcano made contact with Chip Angle, N6CA in southern California on 3456 MHz at 2325 UTC. The short CW contact brought a signal report of RST 319 over the 2471 mile path. About an hour later, at approximately 2425 UTC, Leib and Angle made a similar contact on 5760 MHz, thereby setting another world record for that band.

Each of the stations was running 5 watts output to a 4 foot dish antenna, using equipment specifically designed for the path attempt by N6CA. Both contacts were monitored, recorded and verified by other amateurs in the southern California area.

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Commodore 64 computer keyboard, power supply, disc drive, all cables.

All in working order, \$50 for all.

CONTACT: Hy Ecksel, WA3NDE 215-677-7986

WANTED: Socket for a 4-1000A

CONTACT: Ed Barbacow, K3ZCY

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FOR SALE: Polar Research rotator \$400; Cushcraft 220 Boomer \$50; 2304 loop yagi \$50; F9FT 4-yagi array on 1296 \$150; 432 converter \$50; 144 MHz 8877 amplifier best offer.

CONTACT: Herb, K2LNS

717-829-2695 3PM - 7PM

COMMERCIAL AD

LOOP YAGIS: 902 MHz 33 element \$89 kit, \$109 assembled and tested. 1296 MHz 45 element \$89 kit, \$109 assembled and tested. 1296 MHz 55 element "Super Looper" \$99 kit, \$124 assembled and tested. 2304 MHz 45 element \$75 kit, \$89 assembled and tested. Also available: element and hardware kits for above. 2 and 4-way power dividers. Discount on complete arrays. Solid state linear power amps, 13 VDC: 1296 - 8W in 35W out \$315, 1W in 20W out \$265, 4W in 70W out \$695. GaAs FET preamps: 902 MHz .8dB NF \$90, 1296 MHz .8dB \$90, 2304 MHz 1 dB max NF \$140. SHF SYSTEMS no-tune transverter kits, W/144 MHz IF now available for 903 through 3456 MHz. Write or call for complete catalog. DOWN EAST MICROWAVE, Bill Olson, W3HQT, Box 2301 RR-1, Troy, Maine 04907. For information and orders telephone (207) 948-3741.

HAMARAMA '91 UPDATE Chairman Al Boblitt, K3ECD

Pack Rats WB2VLA, WB2YEH, WA3JUF, N3CX, N3AOG, K3EOD, and WC2K met at the QTH of Bob Fischer, WB2YEH on Sunday morning, August 25, for the Hamarama flyer "fold and paste". Yes, 1990's technology has replaced the ol' lick-N-stick days of staples in the finger and toxic tongue syndrome. Special thanks to Dick, N3AOG, for the use of his postage meter which made it easy to prepare 2,000 flyers for mailing. In addition to the flyer operation, a visit was made to the Carden State Park to finalize Hamarama logistics.

Don't forget to contact the various Hamarama chairmen to volunteer your time to make Hamarama 91 the best one yet. Additional Hamfest/Conference flyers are available for hand-outs. Please contact me. Let's spread the word far and wide!

PLACES OF INTEREST FOR WIVES & KIDS ON HAMARAMA WEEKEND

Cherry Hill Mall, Route 38 & Haddonfield Road - shopping, movie theaters
Moorestown Mall, Route 38 & Route 73 - shopping, movie theaters
Cooper River Park - picnics, jogging, sailing, playgrounds, kites, cycling
Hyatt House, Route 70 & Cuthbert Road - comedy night club
Taylor's, Route 70 & Cornell Ave - music and dancing night club
Holliday Inn, Route 70 across from track - "Red Hot and Blues" night club
Philadelphia - Penn's Landing, Center City, Old City/Independence Mall etc.
For additional or specific information, contact Rick Connor, WC2K, 609-268-0736.

W3CCX JUNE 1992 CONTEST PLANS

Dave Hackford, N3CX, has accepted the job of June Contest Chairman for the 1992 event. Dave reports that the Pack Pats will return to Camelback Mountain where a very successful effort was put forth just 3 months ago. Dave reports that club projects will soon begin which will include building new antennas and gear specifically for the expedition. Contact N3CX and watch Cheesebits for details.

1991 MID-ATLANTIC STATES VHF CONFERENCE Report from Chairman John Sortor, KB3XG

The VHF Conference, sponsored by the Pack Rats, has been planned to provide more quality, convenience, comfort, and fun than ever. The conference will be held on Saturday October 5, day before the hamfest, at the Woodland Fire Hall, Cherry Hill. NJ. The fire hall is located just around the corner from the Racetrack Hamarama site.

The following speakers are scheduled for presentations which will begin at 9AM and continue untill 4PM with a break for lunch:

Joe Reisert, WIJR

"Antenna Matching"

"EMP and Microwave Multiplexing" Ray Staht, Teledynamics Engineer

Dr. John Mulholland, Vilanova Univ. --"Satellites Communications from their

Inception to Present"

Emil Pollack, W3EP "Propagation and 11 Years of Sporadic E"

Paul Drexler, WB3JYO "High Level Mixer" practical seminar

"Simulated Antenna Modeling" Jim Breakall, WA3FET

Morning coffee, lunch, cocktails, banquet-style dinner, and Pack Rat hospitality will all be catered at the fire hall. Contact John Sortor for additional details and information 215-354-1635.

PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS IMMEDIATELY Harry Stein -Suprise Roast

The Mt. Airy V.H.F. Radio Club (The Pack Rats) are Pleased to honor one of their outstanding Members by inviting you to attend a SUPRISE ROAST which will be held on :

> Time: 12:00 NOON Sharp Date: September 21, 1991

Place: San Remo (The Old Golden Horse) Restaurant U.S. 1 and Street Road (RT 132), Trevose, Pa.

COME OUT AND HELP US HONOR A MAN WHO HAS GIVEN OVER 60 YEARS TO THE

DEVELOPMENT AND BETTERMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO.

LIMITED SEATING: Reservations must be received by: SEPT. 9, 1991

LAST MINUTE TID BITS:

DAVE, N3CX IS LOOKING FOR ANYONE ELSE WHO IS INTERESTED IN GOING TO "MICROWAVE UPDATE 1991". THIS CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD OCT. 17-18 IN ARLINGTON, TEXAS. SEE CHEESE BITS, AUG., PAGE 6, FOR DETAILS, CALL DAVE AT 215-679-7293 (h) 215-483-2030 (w)

ED, WB2DNE WILL BE QRP/PORTABLE FROM BLOCK ISLAND FN41 FOR THE SEPTEMBER VHF CONTEST. ED WILL BE QRV ON 6,2,222,432 AND 1296.

INTENT IONALLY BLANK

THE "PACK RATS" PRESENT HAMARAMA 1991

MID-ATLANTIC STATES VHF CONFERENCE

NEW LARGER LOCATION-GARDEN STATE PARK

CHERRY HILL, NJ ON OCTOBER 5th & 6th, 1991

THE CONFERENCE: Saturday October 5, 9am-9pm Woodland Fire Hall - Rt 38 and Beechwood Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ (From NJ Turnpike, Exit 4 to Rt 73 N, to Rt 38 W, then 4 miles to Beechwood Ave.) (From Phila. Ben Franklin Bridge to US 30, to Rt 38 E,"U" turn at Chapel Ave. exit to 38 W.) All day VHF/UHF program - Well-known speakers - Hospitality Lunch, Program, Cocktails and Dinner - All at the Fire Hall Registration: Advance - \$8.00; At the door - \$10.00 (includes Hamarama) Contact: Conference Chairman John Sortor KB3XG 215-354-1635

THE HAMFEST: Sunday October 6, 7am-4pm
Garden State Race Park - Rt 70 and Cornell Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ
(See map on other side of flyer)
Unlimited Parking - Gates open to Sellers 6am - Rain or Shine
Gates open to Buyers 7am

NO ONE WILL BE ADMITTED PRIOR TO 6am.

Food, Beverages, Facilities on Site - SORRY, NO OVERNIGHT PARKING Sellers - \$1.00/car parking + \$4.00/person admission + \$8.00/space(bring tables) Buyers - \$1.00/car parking + \$4.00/person admission

Contact: Hamarama Chairman Al Boblitt, K3EOD 215-742-3312
TALK-IN 146.52

Advance Registration for the VHF CONFE	•
Address:City:	
State: Zi <u>p:</u>	Dinner \$16.00
Call:	Total \$

Make checks payable to: "Mt Airy VHF Radio Club, Inc." Motel/Hotel Information: Rick Connor, WC2K 609-268-0736 * Holiday Inn, Cherry Hill - Special rates for "Hamarama" * Advance tickets held at door - send SASE for conformation.

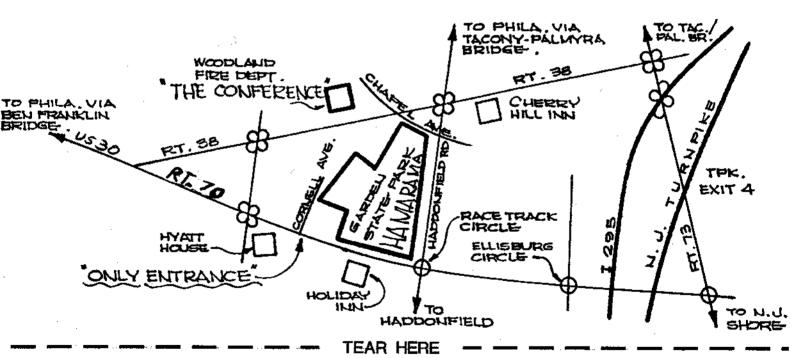
Hamarama 1991 P. O. Box 311 Southampton, PA 18966

PACK RATS HAMARAMA 1991

and

Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference

THE CONFERENCE - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1991
THE HAMFEST - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1991



MAIL TO : VHF CONFERENCE, P.O. BOX 311, SOUTHAMPTON, PA 18966

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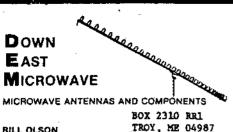
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