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# NEWSLETTER

**MAR**  
**1985**

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Deadline for Articles: Delivered to the P.O.Box 6253 address by the 15th of each month. You may send directly to the Editor at 585 Kismet Road, Phila. PA 19115.

Editor reserves the right to edit, reject, reduce, etc. all items to be published. WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT!!

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# NEWSLETTER

## HARC NEWSLETTER STAFF

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K3HIN

The English Corner: Ray Godfrey:  
N3DQW

Staff: Paul Rothman, K3RBO  
Edith Rosner, W3AAU

.....

## THIS MONTH IN THE HARC NEWSLETTER

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To The Editor:

I would like to commend Stuart Kravitz, K3GA, for his excellent, professionally done, review of the Sanyo MBC-555-2 Personal Computer. The review was most informative. I found myself asking the question, "Why did I purchase a Heathkit HF-151 instead of the MBC-555-2"? The answer is that I needed the capability to accept IBM PC compatible plug-in boards. The MBC-555-2 doesn't offer that capability.

There is an IBM PC compatible board available for virtually any application you can think of. A single manufacturer, TECMAR, offers over 50 boards. Product categories include the following:

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I am not a TECMAR salesman. I just want readers to be aware or the hundreds of boards available for true IBM PC compatibles. TECMAR is simply the first manufacturer of such boards that comes to mind. If you are positive you won't need one of these boards, I would have to agree with Stuart, the Sanyo MBC-555-2 is a great buy.

John Hill, W2HUV

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# HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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P.O. BOX 6253 ~ PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19136



## NEWSLETTER

### THE PREZ SEZ

I hope that those of you who attended the banquet enjoyed themselves and had a good evening. I guess it was good, but I can tell you that some of you were pre-occupied with recovery, since you didn't make it to the meeting on Sunday.

Upcoming for our next meeting, we will have a quest and demonstration on "PACKET RADIO." (Provided we get a confirmation for April 14. Remember, April 7 is a holiday, so our General Meeting will be on the SECOND SUNDAY in April.)

We are planning a Club Breakfast for May and also a "SWAP-NET" for Monday or Thursday evenings.

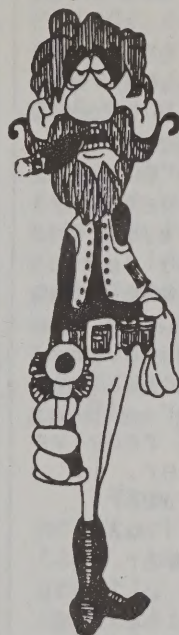
We are not far away from placing an order with SPECTRUM for a new repeater. Details will follow as to our progress. Also, we are in need of volunteers for our Technical Committee. Can you lend a hand?

Congratulations to our member, Ben Ginsburg, AB3Z on winning the Commodore Computer.

Have a good Spring Season and hope to see you at the April 14 meeting. One final thing... I would like to thank the Chaverim of Delaware Valley for their contribution of \$100.00 for their use of the HARC repeater.

Until next month,  
Tony Musero, K3UKW  
President

PARTNER LISTEN UP....



NEXT MEETING OF THE  
HOLMESBURG CLUB  
WILL BE ON

**SUNDAY**  
**APRIL**  
**14<sup>TH</sup>**

AT THE  
**8<sup>TH</sup> POLICE DISTRICT**

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W3HK

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# NEWSLETTER

## "THE PIRATE LAW"

I am very concerned about the recent passage of the Telecommunications Act. This 'unfair' law was passed by the Federal Legislature on December 29, 1984. This Act makes it illegal to receive HBO or any other pay TV signal using the infamous MDS receiver. (This is also known as the pirate HBO antenna). There are over 5000 pirates in Northeast Philadelphia alone!. I also own an MDS receiver, but I modified it to receive signals other than HBO.

There is a law on the books that says it is legal to receive any radio or other signal through the airwaves.

For the new Telecommunications Act to have been passed the cable companies must have had to pay a large sum of money to the Legislature to vote for the passage of the law. I have no evidence to substantiate this accusation, but nobody does something for nothing!

In the State of New Jersey there is a law that prohibits the carrying of a police scanner in the car. If this law is violated, one can receive a stiff fine or worse! However, if you are an Amateur Radio Operator, you are immune to this law. I was told by the FCC that this is for security reasons.

Following the conversation by FCC investigator Frank Crammer, the facts are:

Cable companies have the right to bring a civil suit against anyone violating the new Act. There were many instances where the Radio Amateur had to sign a sworn statement, stating that he/she would not use the MDS receiver to intercept HBO. However, it took a court action to give a statement.

Even the way the cable companies detect the reception of HBO on a pirate dish can be thought of as an invasion of privacy. The reception of the signal is currently under litigation by F. Lee Bailey in a court action in the San Francisco Bay area.

Laws are written by and for the people. We, as Amateur Radio Operators, see this Act as a violation of

our "earned" rights. The purpose of Amateur Radio is to experiment, operate and to expand on the radio art. As I see it, this law can be repealed if all Amateurs made their voice heard loud and strong in Washington, DC.

Therefore, I am appealing to all Radio Amateurs to help in this fight. A very vigorous letter writing campaign should be started bringing these facts to light. All letters should be addressed to your Congressman, the FCC and the Honorable Barry Goldwater.

As we all know, there has been various attempts to restrict our operating privileges, even through receiving!!!

PLEASE HELP!!!  
Thank you.

Fred Levin, WB3FFW-Philadelphia PA

[Editor's note: The above correspondence was submitted by Fred Levin, WB3FFW for publication, in the hopes that our members would write to the responsible parties.]

.....  
DATES FOR GENERAL BUSINESS MEETINGS

APRIL 14, 1985	OCTOBER 6, 1985
MAY 5	NOVEMBER 3
JUNE 2	DECEMBER !
JULY 7	JANUARY 5, 1986
AUGUST 4	FEBRUARY 2
SEPTEMBER 8	

.....

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## NEWSLETTER

APRIL CALENDAR

- APRIL 5 - GOOD FRIDAY  
 6 - FIRST DAY OF PASSOVER  
 7 - EASTER SUNDAY  
 14 - GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
 10 a.m. - 8th Police District  
 Academy & Red Lion Roads  
 20 - FLEMINGTON HAMFEST  
 20 - TRENTON COMPUTERFEST  
 TRENTON STATE COLLEGE  
 26 - DAYTON HAMVENTION - "The  
 27 Grand Daddy of them All"  
 28 DAYTON, OHIO
- MAY 2 - BOARD MEETING -LOCATION TO  
 BE ANNOUNCED ON HARCLINE

COMPUTER CORNER  
 BY RICH K3RHJ

THIS MONTHS CORNER WILL BE AN  
 ARTICLE BY PAUL K3R80  
 IT'S A VERY COMPLETE ARTICLE ON  
 THE PRINTER FOR YOU.  
 I AM VERY HAPPY TO SEE THAT MANY  
 MEMBERS ARE CHIPPING IN TO THIS  
 COLUMN "THANKS "

PRINTERS

Another important component  
 of a computer system is a printer.  
 It's kind of hard carrying your  
 computer monitor around with you,  
 so that you can show someone the  
 output of a computer program.  
 "Hard copy" is often desirable,  
 so that you can analyze the  
 results and use them. Some of the  
 uses of this "hard copy" are:

listing programs  
 obtaining listings from  
 bulletin boards  
 word processing  
 creating lists (address lists,  
 etc)

Word processing is probably  
 the most common use of computers  
 in business today, and is widely  
 used for home applications (this  
 article is being typed on a  
 computer with a word processing  
 program). Word processing could be  
 the subject of an entire article.  
 But back to printers. I  
 investigated several makes and  
 models before buying my present  
 printer. When I was looking to  
 purchase my first printer, prices  
 for printers was much higher than  
 they are now, and I elected to go  
 the cheapest route possible. I  
 bought a Commodore printer, which  
 was compatible with the computer  
 and did not require an interface  
 (the device required to translate  
 the data from the computer to the  
 format required to operate most  
 printers). The cost at the time  
 was about \$250.00, which was much  
 less than the \$400.00 plus \$90.00  
 I would have to shell out for  
 another printer.

The decision to buy this  
 printer was a good one at the  
 time, because it allowed me to  
 greatly expand my computing  
 capabilities and do a lot of  
 programming. It was a temporary  
 decision, however, because the one  
 drawback of the printer was that  
 it was not "letter quality". It  
 does not have the look of a  
 professional quality typewriter.  
 I found after a period of time,  
 that I had needs to use word  
 processing for such things as  
 writing technical papers,  
 preparing resumes, and other  
 typing which called for a good  
 quality printer. This made me  
 re-evaluate my printer, and decide  
 to purchase one of the quality  
 needed to meet my needs.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



# NEWSLETTER

## PRINTERS CONTINUED

There are quite a few printers out there. Major brands are Epson, Okidata, SCM, Star Micronics (Gemini), and others. Panasonic has even come out with a line of printers. After careful consideration of all of the features, and the contents of my bank account, I decided on the Gemini SG-10. This printer, having all of the features of the more expensive Epsoms and Okidatas (Enhanced print, expanded, graphics, speed, quality, tractor/fiction feed, etc), is a great value at its list price of \$299.00! And when you can purchase it at a considerable discount at a mail order house, it is a good choice for the hobbyist and even the small businessman. I think you will agree that the quality of this print is so close to that of a typewriter, that it is hard to tell that it is a dot matrix printer!

Anyhow, the bottom line on this is decide what your requirements are, and purchase the printer that best suits your needs and budget.

73,

Paul, K3RBO



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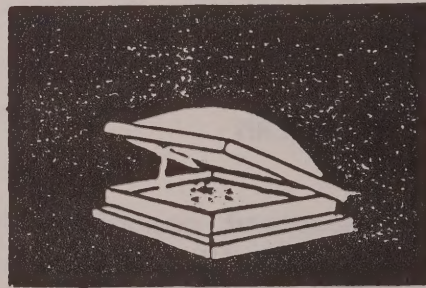
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## NEWSLETTER

NUTS; BOLTS; AND OTHER LOOSE THINGS

Dick WB3EVY

Hey Gang, the Hamfest season is here!

Boy, do I love hamfests. In fact I'm a sucker for hamfests of any shape or form. Where else can you buy so many things you don't need for so little? Yes friends, the hamfest season is here.

My observations at hamfests were somewhat tainted as a buyer. Lately I have been a seller. How else do I get rid of all the junk I bought at other hamfests? So now it's a Sunday routine of getting up before dawn to load the car and drive untold miles to where the action is. Setting up is a chore and having other sellers poking through your not-yet-unpacked boxes makes it even more so. What do they expect to find? Is it better for them before you get it on your table? Anyway, the pre-opening wheeling and dealing is fantastic. Money exchanges hands or items traded way before the first buyer is let through the gate.

At last the table is set and prices posted (ready to be marked down at any moment). Last minute arranging of those items you really hope to sell first is done with care and before you know it, here come the first buyers. Eyes like eagles scan your table without any change in expression. Will they buy or not? Maybe you priced this one too high or maybe that one too low. Move stuff around some more. Step out in front of your table to take a look. Looks okay so back to the sellers position and wait.

Smile, stupid. Look happy; not hungry. Ah, a fellow stops to pick up the "watchamacallit" you priced at \$20. He looks it over carefully. Watch his eyes for approval. He's going to speak and you're ready to take his offer of \$15 but he mentions \$5 instead and tells you he'll be back later (when you get really hungry and will take \$5). So much for early big sales.

Two more people stop and fondle a military rig on your table. They talk about it and fond memories of military service and the fun they had using this old but good piece of equipment. Open the case-play with the controls- and talk, talk, talk, I ask if they're interested in it and remark how negotiable I can be but: No, they're just looking. So why the hell are they blocking my table from real buyers? Get lost guys! Another small group passes making slanderous remarks about my wares and prices. Same to you fellas! Another asks if I'll take a check. One clown stops to admire something and asks for the book. AHA! I have it! I'm sure now he'll buy. He opens the manual to page one and proceeds to read the whole damned thing. He's not only reading but it looks like he's trying to memorize the thing. "HEY TURKEY. EITHER BUY THE PIECE OR PUT THE BOOK DOWN!" Poor baby, I think I hurt his feelings but there he goes to another table to read some more.

I'm sitting in my chair now and even though we've been here only hour or so I'm getting the gloomies, Lugged all this stuff for what? Now I'm getting angry. Guy stops and peers intently at an item and I rise from my chair ready to scream, "YEAH, WHAT DO YOU WANT?" but restrain myself in time to hear him say he'll take it. No questions; no hassles; no nothing except a \$50 bill. Hey, this isn't so bad after all. Things are looking up. Here come some club members and we laugh and joke. Sun is out and it warms me outside while the re-newed friendships warm me inside. There's a ham I haven't seen in years. Hello there. "Yes Sir, can I help you? You want that item for how much? Okay, let's compromise. How does this number grab you? Agreed? Swell. Thank you and have a nice day."



# NEWSLETTER

NUTS: BOLTS: AND OTHER LOOSE THINGS -2-

I'm doing okay now as the sun reaches its noon position. Money in my pocket doing nothing and my table is getting bare. Oh, I can't resist any longer. Guy next to me promises to watch my table while I walk through the hamfest with a gleam in my eye and cash in my sweaty little hands. Oh boy, I'm ready to buy anything.

So many tables. So much stuff. So many people milling around. So much wheeling and dealing. This is wonderful. I'm at the peak of excitement and stop when I see an item on a guy's table that he just bought from me for \$7 and has it for sale for \$15. Hey, that's not fair. Oh well, that's life at a hamfest. Here's something interesting.

I had one of these some years back. Hmm, this one looks clean. I open the case cover and peer inside. Really nice. " Pardon me sir; have you the manual for this?", I ask. He does and I begin to scan through it only to have a paragraph catch my eye. Gee, I didn't know that about this thing. I got so engrossed in that manual I didn't hear the fellow call to me. The second time he spoke everyone heard him, loud and clear. " HEY TURKEY. EITHER BUY THE PIECE OR PUT THE BOOK DOWN!" " THIS ISN'T A LIBRARY!" I was so embarrassed I bought the thing.

I guess it matters what side of the table you're on but either way, it's lots of fun and I love it. So if you should see me sitting quietly behind my table on your next hamfest visit have pity and buy something. Do I have a deal for you!

73

Dick WB3EVY

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
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# NEWSLETTER

NEW MEMBERS.....

The following list of new members have N.A.R.C. name badges waiting for them. Please send a SASE with .22¢ postage to cover costs to the clubs P.O.Box 6253, Phila. PA 19136, or come to the next club meeting on April 14, 1985.

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| JOHN, KA3AMN   | AVRAM, N3BBF    |
| ROBERT, N3DXU  | Joe, N2FDV      |
| ARTHUR, W3FWI  | SID, K3HFH      |
| ED, KA2INK     | HERSHEL, WA3MXV |
| JEFF, K3WJO    | ED, W3BZK       |
| LUIS, KA3DNI   | JOHN, KA3MNT    |
| MOLLIE, K3FYS  | CHUCK, K3QLY    |
| SANDY, KA2WGZ  | LEONARD, N3AVD  |
| BOB, KB3WJ     | BURT, W3FET     |
| ROBERT, WA2YNT |                 |

THE ENGLISH CORNER

Current U.K. reciprocal licensing arrangements:

- U.S.A. - Conditional or General - Class A  
 Advanced or Extra - Class A  
 Technician or Novice - None

If anyone intends to bring in Amateur equipment in the country which is capable of transmitting on bands 26.1 - 29.7 MHz or 88-108 MHz, you will require import authority. (only a letter is required.)

If anyone wants a form for a license please write:

The Radio Amateur Licensing Unit  
 Post Office Headquarters  
 Chetwynd House  
 Chesterfield  
 S491PF  
 England

Cost is 12 pounds sterling. This license is for 12 months and is renewable, if you have a fixed address. If not, then you will receive a two month mobile license, which is not renewable. Both cost the same.

If anyone is interested in starting a RACES (Radio Amateur Emergency Service) Group, or at least joining one, the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club, Inc. has been asked by the City of Phila. to organize it. If interested, please

TIDBITS

- \*Birthdays are nice to have in moderation-too many of them will kill you.
- \*If it ain't broke, don't fix it!
- \*A bambler is one who picks his own pockets
- \*Nothing is harder to say quietly than ouch.
- \*The problem with doing nothing is that you can't stop to rest.
- \*With the high cost of apples these days, you might just as well call a doctor.
- \*How well you like hard work often depends on whether you're doing it or paying for it.

English Corner (continued)

come to the next General meeting on April 14, 1985 and speak to me.

Ray Godfrey, N3DQW

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# NEWSLETTER

From Metroplex Newsletter  
Feb '84



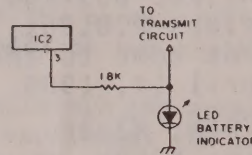
MAY...GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON.....

**MAY 5**

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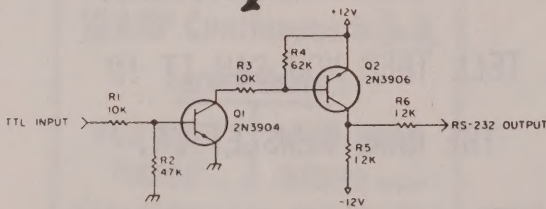


RECEIVE INDICATOR FOR ICOM HTs: Use the transmit/battery LED to tell you when your 2AT, 3AT, or 4AT is receiving a signal. Connect a 1.8, 1/4-W resistor between pin 3 of IC2 (the audio output amplifier) and the anode of the LED. IC2 is a single-line package located next to

the speaker hole on the receive PC board at the front of the rig. Pin 1 is the pin toward the center of the board. Connect one lead of the resistor to the third pin and extend the other lead with a short piece of insulated wire. The wire should be soldered to the pad where R56 connects to the wire going to the LED. When the squelch breaks, this modification will cause the LED to light, but transmit operation will not be affected.—Robin Rumbolt WA4TEM, Knoxville TN.

73 Magazine

From Metroplex Newsletter  
Feb '84



**SIMPLE TRANSISTOR TTL-TO-RS232 INTERFACE:** This circuit can be used for driving an RS232 printer or RTTY interface from your computer or digital circuit. Transistor Q2 is the ± 12-V switch, which is driven by Q1. When the TTL input is low (mark condition), Q1 is turned off, which allows Q2 to be turned off. The RS232 output rests at -12 volts (mark condition). When the TTL input is logic high (5 V), Q1 turns on and drives the base of Q2, turning it on. The RS232 output will then go to approximately +12 V (space condition). Resistor R6 maintains a current limit in the event of an RS232 output short circuit. If the output were shorted without R6 in the circuit, the switch transistor Q2 would quickly burn out. The total cost of this simple interface is 32 cents.—Scott M. Freeberg WA9WFA, Ft. Atkinson WI.

BREAKFAST WILL BE SERVED ON JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>



PLEASE JOIN US AND HAVE AN  BALL

LISTEN ON THE HARCLINE BULLETIN



# NEWSLETTER

**BUY-SELL-TRADE:** THIS SERVICE IS PROVIDED FREE TO OUR MEMBERS. THE HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONDITION OF THE EQUIPMENT OFFERED.

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 Cubic 104 Transceiver (10-80 mtrs.) 650.00  
 KENWOOD TS-820S XCVR..... 525.00  
 MIRAGE B-108 2 Mtr amp/preamp.. 115.00  
 KENWOOD P-104 Phone Patch..... 55.00  
 KENWOOD MC-50 Microphone..... 35.00

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 Robot Model 70 SSTV..... 85.00

PLEASE CONTACT TONY, K3UKW at 215-271-8898.

BEARCAT BC-160...Crystaless Scanner \$125.00

KENWOOD 201  
 NCG Xcvr for 6, 15, 40 mtrs...\$300.00  
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 MN-2000..By Drake.....\$175.00  
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 Pentron 3 KW Tuner..... 175.00  
 MF & Super Keyboard..... 115.00  
 Heathkit VHF SWR/Power Mtr.... 25.00  
 Heathkit SWR Mtr..... 17.00

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 PALOMAR SWR watt meter mint..... 80.00

JAY WA3IFY 215-289-4531

ASDEN PC8 4000 Mobile 2 mtr rig ..... \$190.00  
 Excellent condition  
 HY GAIN 18 AVT-Good cond. .... 40.00  
 RON WB3BDC 609-866-8671

**BIT OF INFORMATION de KC3JV:**

Recently, two nets were discovered on HF for the primary purpose of trading and selling HAM RADIO EQUIPMENT.

NAME:	TIME/DAY	FREQ.
Horse Trader Net	4:00 p.m. Sunday EST	3.942
Gator Trader Net	7:00 p.m. Monday & Friday EST	3.898

If anyone knows of any other H.F. Net for buying/selling equipment, please let us know.

Mark, KC3JV

For those of you that are into contesting, a brand new magazine made its debut in November, 1984. It's called "RADIOSPORTING" and is loaded with information. If interested to subscribe write to:

Tretina Printing, Inc.  
 Hwy. 36 - Airport Plaza  
 Hazlet, NJ 07730  
 Radiosporting subscription: 1 yr. 16.00  
 2 yr. 30.00



# NEWSLETTER

## ZERO BIAS

From WATTS NEWS (Ogden Amateur Radio Club)

Thought some of you would like to have a quick reference to all the 800 numbers available for calling around to check prices. This list was compiled by Kay, WA7GOA, and received from Lee, WA7HOD.

Missouri Radio Center.....	1-800-821-7323
The VHF Shop.....	1-800-426-7373
TNT Radio Sales.....	1-800-328-0250
Amateur Radio Electronics Supply.....	1-800-558-0411
Ham Radio Center.....	1-800-325-3636
World Radio.....	1-800-448-9338
Memphis Amateur Electronics.....	1-800-238-6168
JUN'S.....	1-800-882-1343
MJF Enterprises.....	1-800-647-1800
Britt's Two Way Radio.....	1-800-241-2027
Mosley Electronics.....	1-800-325-4016
Gismo.....	1-800-845-6183
Arden Amateur Wholesale Electronics..	1-800-327-3102
Madison.....	1-800-231-3057
Electronic Center, Inc.....	1-800-527-2156
Colorado Radio Center.....	1-800-227-7373
Radio Warehouse.....	1-800-433-3203
Heathkit.....	1-800-253-0570
Delaware Amateur Supply.....	1-800-441-7008
EGE.....	1-800-336-4799
C-Comm.....	1-800-426-6528
The Antenna Bank.....	1-800-336-8473

Too Many Bananas !  
By: KC3JV

The carrier droppers are at it again! I have listened to the input and it seems that the "Banana" is in the North East, because the carrier is 40dB over S9. I have listened to other stations on the input from, N.J and Center city so I'm fairly ~~star~~ positive of the location.

I know the Willingboro repeater is actively pursuing purchasing RDF equipment.

I think that we need an area-wide group of stations with automatic RDF equipment in base stations and a few mobile units.

A well layed out grid of base stations with exact longitude and latitude stored in a small computer would make a fix from a few ~~asmaths~~ <sup>asmaths</sup> very fast. This would allow the mobile units to be <sup>quickly</sup> dispatched to the correct locality.

What do you think about this? Let's hear from you!  
MARK KC3JV

How about NARC ~~buying~~ buying Foreign & Domestic Call Books. Requests for calls would be by S.A.S.E. to the keeper of the call book? Let us know!  
Mark KC3JV