

Orbit

September / October 1980

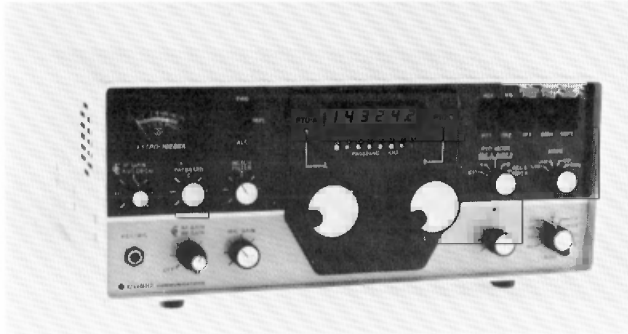
The Journal of the Radio Amateur Space Program



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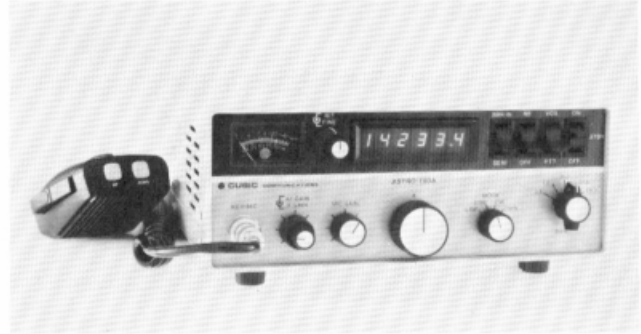
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Shipment of the new CUBIC COMMUNICATIONS ASTRO transceiver line has already begun.

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September/October 1980
Volume 1 Number 3

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Our Cover: See page 35.



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has been that simplicity of operation & elimination of unnecessary "Bells & Whistles" actually removes the causes of many failures being experienced with such transceivers.

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Editorial

By Joe Kasser,* G3ZCZ/W3

AMSAT Finds a New Home

AMSAT now has a new home in Silver Spring, Maryland. Leaving Seventh Street in Washington, we spent a few weeks in temporary quarters in Greenbelt, Maryland. The office is now located at 850 Sligo Avenue Suite 201A in Silver Spring. The office is located diagonally across from the Silver Spring Greyhound Bus terminal, a few blocks from the Silver Spring Metro Station.

Any member visiting Washington, D.C. is welcome to drop in at the office for a visit. Martha will be pleased to meet you and may even provide a cup of coffee.

Boosting the Magazine

Currently, *ORBIT* is running at 40 pages per issue. We would like to increase that to 48 or even 64 pages. AMSAT has a limited budget for *ORBIT*. In order to increase the size of the magazine, the extra cost must be paid for by advertising. In order to attract more advertisers, we need to have a larger circulation. One way of increasing the circulation is to make the magazine available at Radio or Computer stores.

You, as a member can help. If you show your copy of *ORBIT* to the magazine/book manager at your local store, you will be able to interest the store in taking a consignment on a sale-or-return basis. A sale-or-return basis means that the costs to the store are negligible. All it supplies is shelf space. You can act as the agent on behalf of AMSAT/*ORBIT*. Try it, then contact the Distribution Department and let us know how many copies to send you. Random sales of the magazine from stores, increase the circulation and generate new memberships which will have the direct result of enabling us to increase the number of articles in your magazine.

Bob Poole, AJ6F (left) President of the Hughs Aircraft Company El Segundo Division Amateur Radio Club, presents a \$100 check to AMSAT. The presentation was made at the July meeting which featured Norm Chaffin, K6PGX, as the speaker. Norm is shown at the right.

Back Issues

Did you miss one of the early issues of *ORBIT*? There are a few of these collector copies left. Send \$3 for issue one or two, \$5 for both to cover the magazines plus postage. Also there are back issues of the award winning *AMSAT Newsletter*. Most issues from 1974 through 1979 are available. We'll send you fifteen copies of the most popular issues for \$10 postpaid. Send to *ORBIT* 221 Long Swamp Road, Wolcott, CT 06716.

Payload Retrieval

ORBIT Magazine is written by the members of AMSAT for the members of AMSAT as well as for anyone else interested in the Radio Amateur Space Program. The contents of the Journal reflect the submissions of material. If you like, or dislike something, or would like to see an article on a particular topic, please use the Payload Retrieval coupon (or a facsimile thereof) to let us know. We usually hear from people who dislike something, and will thus tend to respond to them and make changes. If you like something, it is important that you let us know too, so that your comments balance theirs.

The Membership Computer Returns

The AMSAT-GOLEM-80 computer finally came back from the launch site and is now available for use in the office. We are thus getting the membership list under control and catching up on the paperwork. Two office moves in a period of one month also contributed to the confusion. We are now back on line and catching up fast. Martha, operating at 120% efficiency, is the only member of the headquarters office staff and is doing her best to catch up with the renewals, new memberships, conversions to life membership, etc. There are times when the new office is knee deep in outgoing mail. Thank you for being patient. We expect that things will be operating at their new level of efficiency before the annual meeting.

Satellite QSL Cards

We've had many requests for satellite related QSL card designs. We are showing a few examples in this issue. If you have a unique card and would like us to consider it for publication, send it to *ORBIT* QSL, 850 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910.

