

EARLY VIEWS OF THE 147.06 REPEATER

Photos contributed by Ray Kiesel K3RIZ

These photos take us back to the early 1970's, before MARC began, when FM repeaters were a new thing in ham radio. Some hams predicted that repeaters were just a fad that would soon be forgotten. Others said that in the future every town would have a repeater, and really big cities might have as many as two repeaters. No one foresaw how repeaters would proliferate, become the glue for local radio clubs, and change the hobby forever.

From the 1970's through the mid-1980's, the 147.06 repeater was located at Villanova University in Villanova, PA. The picture below shows a 1970's view of part of the university campus.

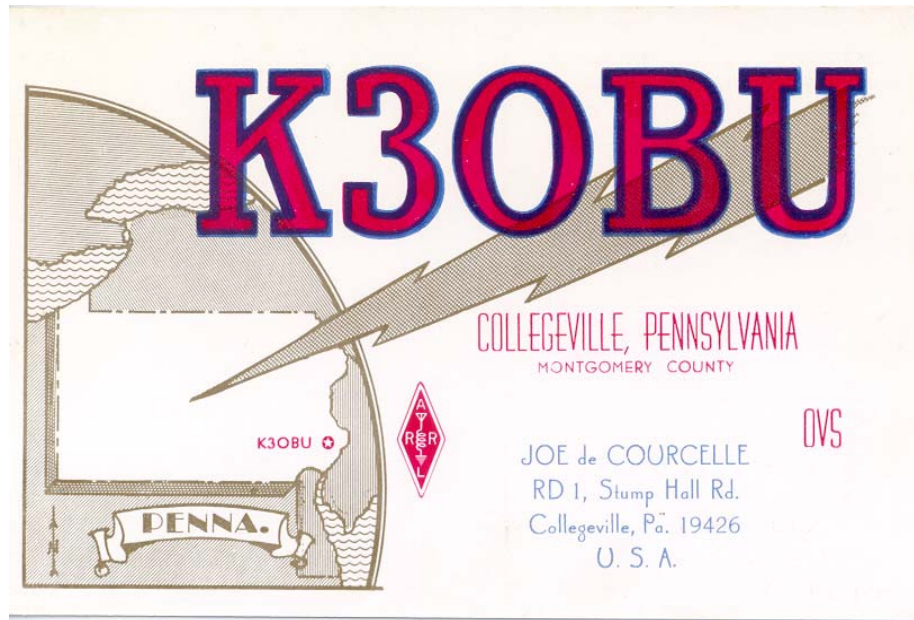


It's a little hard to see in the photo at right, but the dark vertical streak atop the building is the '06 repeater antenna.



The left photo below shows the front of the WR3ABZ repeater cabinet at Villanova. That was the repeater's callsign. In those days, repeaters were required to have distinctive callsigns beginning with the letters WR. The right photo below shows the back of the repeater cabinet, with the machine above and the duplexers at the bottom.

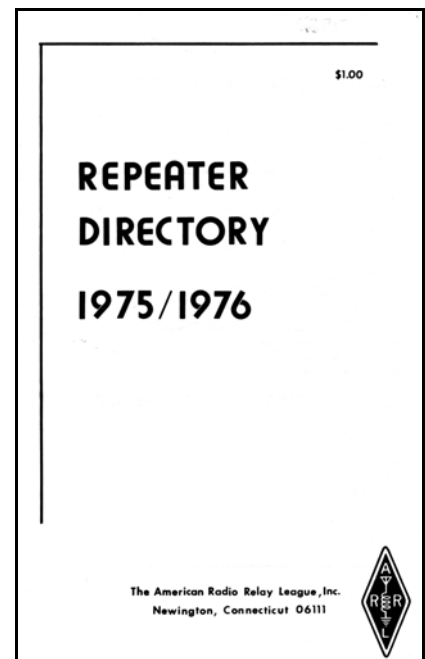




RADIO K3RIZ... Confirming
our FM/CW/2X SSB QSO of
11/23, 1973, at 1910 GMT.
On the 3.5 7 14 21 28
50 (144) 432 MHz. Band.
Ur sigs were R5 S9 7 F. Q. T.
★ — ★
Transmitter: MOTOROLA
HT220 Input 5 wts.
Receiver: HT220
Converter: —
Antenna: 2/4 W.H.P.
★ — ★
Remarks: TNX FOR VRY
1ST 2X QSO
THROUGH WR3ABZ!
★ K30BU ★
Pse QSL Tnx 73. Joe

C. Fritz, Scottsdale, Arizona

K3RIZ /
K30BU QSO
VIA
WR3ABZ



Joe K30BU was one of the two Joe's who built the original '06 repeater as a student project at Villanova. The QSL card above documents the first QSO through the repeater. That took place on November 23, 1973, between Joe K30BU and Ray K3RIZ.

The ARRL Repeater Directory back then only cost a dollar. It wasn't a very fancy publication in those days. On the following page, you see the list of most of the repeaters on the air in Pennsylvania at the time! We've highlighted the relevant entry in a red box. If you glance a few lines up the page, you'll see another familiar callsign in the "sponsor" column. Does anyone remember what the figures in the "Mod" column meant?

<u>Location</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Input</u>	<u>Output</u>	<u>Mod</u>	<u>Access</u>	<u>Ref</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Date</u>
Portland	NW	WR7AFO	146.13	146.73	7-7	C		Portland ARC	W7KJZ	2/75
Portland	NW	WR7ABE	146.34 444.175	146.94 449.175	5-5 8-8	C C		Portland Rptr. K7SJQ	K7DVK	3/75
Portland	NW	WR7ADI	146.40	147.00	5-5	C		Portland Rptr.	K7DVK	3/75
Salem	NW	WR7ABU	147.30	146.85	5-5	C	A	W7TMF	W7TMF	8/74
Sutherland	SW	WR7___	146.16	146.76	5-7	C		Marys Peak Rptr. Assn.	K7STE	3/75
PENNSYLVANIA										
Acme	N Cent.	WR3AFT	146.07	146.67				Laurel Highlands	W3MIF	3/75
Allentown	E Cent.	WR3ACT	146.145	146.745			A	W3LOX	W3LOX	3/75
Altoona	Cent.	WR3ACM	146.22	146.82	5-5	C		Horseshoe RC FM Assn.	K3SIQ	3/75
Aston	SE	WR3ABQ	147.60	147.00	5-5	C	A*	WA3EIO	WA3EIO	3/75
Bangor	E Cent.	WR3AFH	146.04 449.55	146.64 444.55	5-5 10-10	C C		W3RXY	W3RXY	3/75
Beaver	W Cent.	WR3AAA	146.25	146.85	5-5	C		Beaver Val. Ama. FM A.	W3VRZ	3/74
Berwyn	SE	WR3ADJ	147.96	147.36	7-7	C	A	K3ITH	K3ITH	2/75
Bethlehem	E Cent.	WR3AAB	146.10	146.70	5-5	C		Delaware-Lehigh ARC	K3MAZ	3/74
Carlisle	S Cent.	WR3ABR	146.28	146.88	5-5	C		WA3RFL	WA3RFL	4/74
Chambersburg	S Cent.	WR3ADA	147.72	147.12	5-5	C		Cumberland Val. ARC	K3EDH	3/75
Collegeville	SE	WR3ABZ	147.66	147.06	5-5	C		DE Val. RC	K3OBU	3/75
Corry	NW	WR3AEI WR3AEJ*	147.69 147.69	147.09 147.09	7-7 7-7	C T			WA3SOQ	3/75
Delmont	SW	WR3AET	146.10	146.70	7-7	C		W3WME	W3WME	3/75
Erie	NW	WR3ADO	146.16	146.76					W3MIF	3/75
Erie	NW	WR3ABY	146.22	146.82	5-5	C	W1477		K3NAU	4/75
Erie	NW	WR3ACA	146.19 146.34	146.94 146.94	5-5 5-5	C C		Rad. Assn. of Erie	K3NAU	4/75
Exton	SE	WR3AEM	147.72	147.12		C		WA3TLR	WA3TLR	3/75
Hatfield	SE	WR3ADD	147.93	147.33		C		WA3RYQ	WA3RYQ	7/74
Hazleton	E Cent.	WR3ADF	146.07	146.67	5-5	C		Anthracite Rptr. Assn.	WA3BSV	3/75
Imperial	SW	WR3AFF	147.81	147.21	5-5	C	A	K3KEM	K3KEM	2/75
Indiana	W Cent.	WR3ADW	146.31	146.91				Indiana Co. ARC	W3FVU	3/75
Johnstown	SW	WR3ACS	146.34	146.94	5-5	C		Laurel Mtn. VHF Soc.	K3JSV	3/74
Lancaster	SE	WR3ACE	146.01	146.61	5-5	C		SERCOM	W3DNV	2/75
Lancaster	SE	WR3AEW	146.22	146.82	5-5	C		SERCOM	W3DNV	2/75
Lancaster	SE	WR3ACE*	444.15	449.15	5-5	PL		SERCOM	W3DNV	2/75
Lansdale	SE	WR3AEU	147.69	147.09	5-5	C		Warminster ARC	K3ZAC	2/75
Meadville	NW	WR3ABN	146.04	146.64	5-5	C	A	Crawford ARS	K3HWL	3/74
Milton	Cent.	WR3ADL	146.37	146.97	5-5	C		Milton ARC	WA3UKZ	3/75
Muncy	Cent.	WR3ADB	146.22	146.82		C	A	W3SDZ, WA3WLW	W3SDZ	3/75