

From the log of
Phone S. C. 3973

Rt. 1, Kinwood, New Jersey
John Dilks Jr

Confirming
QSO of

7/15/56

KN2TON

DATE TIME	STATION CALLED	CALLED BY	HIS FREQ. OR DIAL	HIS SIGNALS RST	MY SIGNALS RST	FREQ. MC.	EMIS- SION TYPE	POWER INPUT WATTS	TIME OF ENDING QSO
7/15/56 1050	W2KS	X	28560	5/9+	599	3.735	a1	7 1/2	1109

Xm Tr Homebrewed. Rear MC 81X / gc / ant Tuner
Johnson Signal Sentry
see you soon!
73/ John



W 2 L 5, Bill Savell
152 East Adams Ave.
Pleasantville, N. J.

KN2TON

JOHN DILKS—Rt. No. 1, Linwood, New Jersey

MY OTHER

5 States
ON 80 cw
So far

735/John

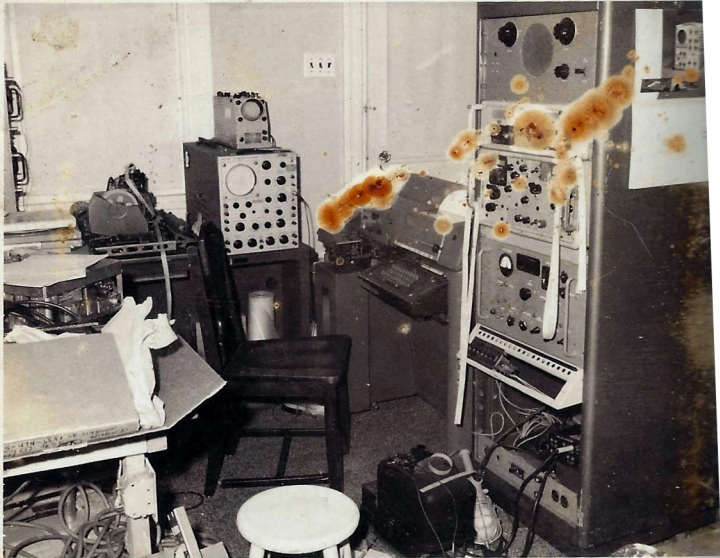
RADIO 252LS
 CONF. QSO OF 7/16 1956
 AT 1032 A.M. E ST
 UR 285 MC. FONE SIGS RS 59+
 XMTR: HB Zewell RECVR NC81 X
 REMARKS: Hr is new card



Bill Savell
152 E. Adams Ave.
Pleasantville, N.J.









WITH HIS TALKING TOMBSTONE, JOHN DILKS GIVES EVERYONE A CHANCE TO HAVE THE LAST WORD

Here lies John Doe
To hear his tale
Push button below

Haven't you ever seen a gravestone and wondered what the guy was really like?" asks John Dilks III. Of course his friends laughed when he explained his idea for the world's first "talking tombstone." "Why not?" wondered Dilks, a computer technician with Western Electric in New Jersey. He set to work with two assistants and came up with imitations of immortality—a solar-powered headstone containing a recording device (for epitaph or words of admonition) and a video display screen on which can be beamed a bio-

graphical account, a genealogy and a computerized photograph. What's more, Dilks' Creative Tombstone, Inc. could add such options as sensors to tell when a visitor approaches or the grass needs watering, a nozzle to spray incense and a mechanized arm that emerges to trim the grass. The price is \$39,500 for a vandalproof headstone covered by bulletproof glass. The cost may limit customers to those who, even if they can't take it with them, want to say something about how it's spent. Yet there have already been 50 inquiries.

Dilks, 35, has been dead serious about computers and genealogy for years. He began tinkering with comput-

At a grave (no relation) in South Jersey, computer buff John Dilks shows how he will program tombstones for posterity.


ers after high school and last year organized the first national conference of computer hobbyists. As an amateur genealogist, he traced his mother's family to the first English settlers near his home in English Creek, N.J. Computerized tombstones, Dilks hopes, will become "a family project so that additional information can be added. They could supplant the family Bible."

Dilks is already making sure no man will write his epitaph. He is designing a headstone with info about his wife, Sherry, and their four kids and some advice "for my great-great-great-grandchildren." It may not be worth waiting that long. The message is, "Do what's right, come what may." □






Old Barney
Amateur
Radio
Club



K
2
T
Q
N



Grid Square FM29pi
US State New Jersey
US County Atlantic



John Dilks
125 Warf Road
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234
K2TQN@ARRL.NET

