

POTA-Mania September



The Prez Sez...

Fellow Phil-Monters,

September was another intense month for Phil-Mont. We kicked off with the APRS PMRC Radio Labs and POTA-Mania, followed by the demanding MS-150 City to Shore Bike event. Huge thanks to Greg KC3SMW and Mike KC3UKC for their work leading the labs and the POTA event, and to all members who volunteered for the MS-150.

The MS-150 is a massive logistical exercise, requiring us to spend many hours equipping 19 SAG (Support And Gear) vehicles with APRS trackers and dual-band radios. With simultaneous communications across 12 different frequencies and multiple repeaters throughout South Jersey, it's a premier operational amateur radio practice event.



As the operator of SAG #9 on the sweep team, I have a front-row seat. We're the last vehicle out and the last in, following the sweep rider on a nearly 9-hour drive from Cherry Hill to Ocean City on Saturday and then back to Cherry Hill on Sunday. Our mission, along with the other 18 SAG teams, is critical: dealing with flats, assisting crash victims, and helping slower riders to ensure no one is left behind. Contributing to the worthy cause of the MS Society this way is incredibly satisfying.

Want to be a part of it? There's always room for more volunteers. Block out September 25th through the 27th, 2026, to play radio for three days straight and help make this event safe and successful.

Election time is coming. This year, three board member positions (two-year term) are opening and ALL of the officer positions are open as they are every year. If you would like to run for ANY position, come to the October meeting with your platform and announce your candidacy. Nominations are in November and elections in December.

We're always looking for submissions to The Blurb, so if you have an idea for an article, write it up and send it in. There's some great ones this month, keep them coming.

This is the best hobby ever with unlimited possibilities. It is always there whether you play daily, weekly, or monthly. We're all busy but have our club to keep us together through radio. So don't stress it and keep having fun playing radio. We play radio; that's what we do. Play, Break, Learn. See you at a club event soon.

Looking forward Okt-POTA Fest.

73, Rich, AA3RC

Remember, this is **YOUR HOBBY, YOUR Club, YOUR repeaters**. **USE** them. **MONITOR** them.

BE A REPEATER GREETER.

Answer calls when you can. Let's leave **NO CALL UNANSWERED.**

FAIL = First Attempt In Learning

The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE... They never knowingly operate in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... They offer loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in their country, through which Amateur Radio in their country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... They keep their station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. Their operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY... They operate slowly and patiently when requested; offer friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC... Their station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

- adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M.



Get the Net!

There's no ham radio without YOU!

Get on the air and share! Operate, cooperate, & celebrate ham radio!

Phil-Mont's Drive Time Net

Join us every Monday-Friday 5 to 6pm on our VHF Repeater, Allstar or Echolink

<u>DENn-Digital Education</u> **Net for newbies**

Every Tuesday 2000-2130 on our VHF repeater with Zoom back channel for video only. Watch our Groups.io for posts tagged #DENn for details.

Philadelphia ARES

Sundays 8 PM ET on our VHF Repeater, Allstar or Echolink OMIK Net Sat. 11am

KC3BVL VHF and UP Nets

All nets upper sideband but CW ok Fridays are to get your VHF station running smoothly and find out who you can work.

7:30pm 144.160 8
8:30pm 222.150 9

8pm 9pm

50.160 432.160

Microwave Wednesdays are to get your microwave station up and running smoothly.

7:30pm 903.100 8pm 1296.100 8:30pm 2304.100 9pm 5760.100

CLUB REPEATERS

<u>VHF</u>: 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)

REMOTE VHF INPUTS:

Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)-Currently off-air

Delaware County West and South PL 100.0 (147.030)

<u>UHF</u>: 444.80 MHz Yaesu System Fusion WiresX

ECHOLINK W3QV-R & ALLSTAR 47970

Phil-Mont Simplex Frequency 147.510mHz PL91.5 TSQL



3h Blurb

Sunday Morning Nets

Tune in on any or all for a Sunday morning 'Hello!'

0930 ET:

VHF Repeater, Allstar or Echolink

1000 ET:

75 meter Net (3.993 MHz LSB +/-QRM)

October Sunday Net Control Schedule

10/12/2025 N3QV 10/19/2025 KE3QB

10/5/2025 KB3IV

10/26/2025 KB3SJS

Club Business

NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

Wednesday, October 8th

Giant Supermarket 315 York Rd.
Willow Grove, PA 19090

5:30PM Yack & Snack 6:30PM Meeting Starts 7PM Presentation

October Presentation:

David KB3RIJ Introduction to

Software Defined Radio with

Focus on Aviation Frequency

Applications

This Month's Birthdays

KB3IV Ed Masarsky 1-Oct
K3DTC Domenic Cantarella 5-Oct
W3MHP Frank Kohn 8-Oct
KM4WSK Erin Farmer 12-Oct
N3JEC Jonathan Caicedo 12-Oct
K3ALT David Ewing 15-Oct
KD3BNW Delancey Cheeks 19-Oct
KC3UKC Michael Bryan 22-Oct
K3DFG Dave Gilbert 31-Oct
W3UP Dick Klein 31-Oct

Want your Birthday read on the Nets?
Update your info at hamclubonline.com

New Club Members

Deborah "Deb" Schein W3KID, Extra

Michael Feinberg, KD3BXR (soon to be K3AMU)

Richard "Rick" Van Luvender W0RJV, General



Phil-Mont Membership Statistics

October 2025

Member Types Statistics: (Active Members)

Total	214
Officer	4
Board Member	7
Honorary	3
REGULAR Membership	200



The Amateur Radio
Emergency Service are
trained licensed amateur radio
operators providing radio
communications as a public
service in disaster situations.
All licensed operators are
welcome to join. To learn more
join our <u>Groups.io</u> and visit
PHLARES.org.

Join the A.R.E.S. Training Net

Every Sunday evening at 2000 (8:00 PM) 147.030 MHz



Ham Radio Challenge

Here's a fun checklist you October have seen in the group messages, but here it is again.

GO PLAY RADIO. Let's see who can check all the boxes!

Band Worked	Mode Worked	Activity (or mode of op)
□ - 2,200 M (135 kHz)	□ - SSB	☐ - Repeater QSO (2 M and up)
□ - 630 M (472 kHz)	□-CW	☐ - Repeater QSO (10 or 6 M)
□ - 160 M (1.8 MHz)	□ - AM	□ - Simplex FM QSO (VHF/UHF)
□ - 80/75 M (3.5/3.8 MHz)	□ - FM	□ - SSB QSO (VHF/UHF)
□ - 60 M (5.3 MHz)	□ - PSK (31, 63)	□ - CW Contact
□ - 40 M (7 MHz)	□ - FT4	□ - Contest Contact
□ - 30 M (10.1 MHz)	□ - FT8	☐ - Satellite and/or EME Contact
□ - 20 M (14 MHz)	☐ - Other WSJT- X Modes (FSK441, JT6M, JT65, etc.)	□ - Fox Hunt (ARDF)
□ - 17 M (18 MHz)	□ - JS8call	□ - WinLink Contact
□ - 15 M (21 MHz)	□ - Packet (AX25)/APRS	□ - EchoLink Contact
□ - 12 M (24.9 MHz)	☐ - SSTV or Fast Scan ATV	☐ - WAS (work all 50 states)
□ - 10 M (28 MHz)	☐ - Digital FM- DMR, D-Star,	☐ - Work 50 countries
□ - 6 M (50 MHz)	Fusion, etc.) or Hotspots	☐ - Work 100 countries
□ - 2 M (144 MHz)	☐ - Pactor, Clover, Olivia,	☐ - WAC- Work All Continents
□ - 1.25 M (222 MHz)	Throb, DominoEX, MT63, Thor, AMTOR, etc.	□ - POTA (Parks On The Air) or SOTA (Summits On The Air) Chaser Contact
□ - 75 cm (440 MHz)	□ - FAX or Hellschreiber	
□ - 33 cm (902 MHz)	Club	☐ - POTA or SOTA Activation
☐ - Higher Microwave Bands	☐ - Attend an ARC meeting	☐ - POTA Activator
Build or Install	☐ - Present at ARC meeting	☐ - Work your State QSO party
□ - New VHF/UHF Antenna	□ - Head a committee	Build/Test/Repair
□ - New HF Antenna	□ - Attend a Hamfest	□ - Electronics Kit or Homebrew
□ - New Mobile Radio	☐ - Teach a Licensing Class or be a VE	☐ - Use an Antenna Analyzer or nano-VNA to measure
□ - New Mobile Antenna	☐ - Mentor a new ham	□ - Fix non-working Radio
□ - Computer/Radio Interface	☐ - Write a newsletter article	□ - Arduino, Rasp Pi microprocessor project or Program
□ - New Operating Desk	□ - Volunteer for Public Serv	



Upcoming Club Events

Won't You Join Us...

in The DENn!

Phil-Mont's *Digital Education Net for newbies*!

Tuesday Evenings @8:00pm Zoom Backchannel @7:00pm

W3QV Repeater: 147.030 MHz + 91.5 Allstar Node: 47970 Echolink: W3QV-R

Don't let the name fool you!

All are welcomed to join us and play. It doesn't matter if you are new to Ham Radio, new to digital modes, or are an already experienced ham and digital operator.

We are here to play, learn, and test our equipment.

With the digital modes if you can do it on the repeater you can do it pretty much everywhere, *including HF.*

So come on out, test your setup, and **HAVE SOME FUN!**

NET CONTROLS KC3SMW, Greg—NY3J, Ron—W3ZO, Rob

Upcoming DENn Topics

Stay tuned to the groups.io group, October's topics TBD.

POTA-Mania September



Saturday September 20th, 2025 - PMRC POTA-MANIA

Attendees: KC3UKC, KC3SMW, K0BUF, N3ZP, KC3WHU, W3KID, N3FGU, KC3GJX

What a difference a month can make! This month's POTAmania may have been one of the nicest weekends of weather, both terrestrial and solar, that we have had in months.

The morning started off at a nice cool 66 degrees with low humidity and clear skies. For the rest of the day we would only see a high temperature of around 75 degrees which for me is the perfect conditions to be out in the park operating.

Attendance was a little light for the first hour while KC3SMW, K0BUF and myself started setting up a few antennas and getting our stations ready to operate. Once we got on the air we were pleasantly surprised to see that conditions on 40m were still favorable and all 3 of us were able to complete our first 10 contacts within just a few minutes of operating. From there the group operated on all bands from 40m - 10m with at least a few contacts on each band. I stayed on 15m for a while and managed to pick up 20 contacts on the band including three DX contacts from Barbados, Spain and France. Conditions to the west coast were also good on 15m and included several from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and California.

By the end of the day we had managed 4 separate activations of the park and a total of 159 contacts among everyone. Notable among these activations was Andy N3FGU who was in town from California visiting his sister W3KID and had his first POTA activation at Fort Washington. Congrats on a great activation, Andy!

As the day wore on we had several guests and visitors who stopped by to ask some questions and got to learn a little bit about HAM radio and Parks on the Air. I think some of this interest may have been sparked by the variety of antennas we had deployed at the park. We had all the usual suspects for portable operation on display from an End Fed Halfwave to a Random Wire and a few different variations of vertical antennas. Some other highlights to the day were KC3WHU and KC3GJX discussing possible uses for meshtastic devices, and KC3SMW and I making a POTA contact exchange using direct APRS messaging.

All things considered, we had a great day in the park and several successful activations. It was a great day to be outside playing radio and talking with fellow club members and I can't wait to do it again next month. Make sure you have your calendar clear for OKT-POTA-FEST on October 10th, 11th and 12th!

See you in October,

Mike, KC3UKC



Upcoming Club Events

MARK YOUR 2025 CALENDARS Fall Radio Activities

October 10-11-12—OKT-POTA-Fest

Wrapping up an amazing 2025 lineup. Get ready for some serious fun.

Upcoming Hamfests

SAME LOCATION!!!



HAMFEST 2.0



RF HILL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025 RAIN OR SHINE



At the Upper County Campus of the Bucks County Community College Use GPS address: 346 Blooming Glen Road, Perkasie, PA 18944 GPS Coordinates: Latitude 40° 22′ 53″ N, Longitude 75° 16′ 31.8″ W Gates are open 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM for the General Public Opens - 7:00 AM for vendors • NO OVERNIGHT PARKING at the College

- FREE PARKING !!!
- **NO EARLY BIRDS!!!**
- Vendor spaces Spaces DO NOT include admission.
 OUTDOOR: approx. 9' frontage, first come, first served on Sunday \$10 / space.
 - NO LARGE BILLS ACCEPTED AT THE GATE!
- VE testing: Inside. Begins at 10:00 AM sharp.

 Bring ID and FRN! Fee \$15.00
- Food available at site
- Door Prizes drawn throughout the day (Must be present to Win)

 Ham Equipment, Computer Hardware and Software flea market

For Hamfest information contact:

Jim Soete, WA3YLQ

215-622-4344

Email: wa3ylq@hotmail.com

Club website: www.rfhillarc.club



See other side for maps & directions

^{**} Non-ham spouses and kids are free

N3ZP's Contest Corner

Here is the contest calendar report for October. It's a busy month with some special contests, state QSO Parties, a Digital contest, two 10 -10 contests and a big CQWW DX contest.

October 4 - October 5

Collegiate QSO Party - 0000Z Oct.4 - 2359 Oct. 5. All bands except WARC. CW, Phone, Digital. 150 Watts Max. Rules: https://collegiateqsoparty.com. An event to promote activity from college radio club stations to contact other amateurs. Contact the club at your alma mater. The rules page has a list of participating colleges.

Russian Worldwide Digital Contest - 1200Z Oct. 4 - 1159Z Oct. 5. Worldwide. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. BPSK63, RTTY. Rules: 100 Watts Max. Rules:http://www.rdrclub.ru/rdrc-news/russian-ww-digital-contest/51-rus-ww-digi-rules. Work a few Russian stations on PSK or RTTY.

California QSO Party - 1600Z Oct. 4 - 2200Z Oct. 5. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW, Phone. Rules:https://www.cqp.org/Rules.html. Work CA stations in 58 counties. Expect a lot of activity from CA stations.

Peanut Power QRP Sprint - 2200Z - 2359Z Oct. 5. 80, 40 and 20 Meters. CW, Phone. Rules:http://www.nogaqrp.org/PeanutPower/rules.pdf. Work a few Georgia peanut number stations who will be running QRP power (5 Watts CW, 10 Watts Phone) and even some running under one or 2 Watts in a 2 hour sprint. Get a Peanut number for the event and run some low power too.

October 10 - October 12

10 - 10 International 10 - 10 Day Sprint - 0001Z - 2359Z Oct. 10. Worldwide. 10 Meters only. All modes. Rules:https://www.ten-ten.org/qso-party-rules/. Another of the 10 - 10 Club events to promote activity on 10 Meters. Get on 10 when the band still has good propagation. You don't need to be a member but collect 10 member numbers and join.

Nevada QSO Party - 0300Z Oct. 11 - 2100Z Oct. 12. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, VHF/UHF. CW, SSB, Digital. Rules:http://nvqso.com/contest-rules. Work 17 NV counties to add NV to your Worked All States.

Arizona QSO Party - 1500Z Oct. 11 - 0500Z Oct. 12. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, CW, Phone. Rules:https://www.azgp.org/. Work 15 AZ counties on this busy QSO Party weekend.

South Dakota QSO Party - 1800Z Oct. 11 - 1800Z Oct. 12. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 Meters. Rules:https://www.azqp.org/. Work 20 SD counties to add another state to your WAS award. SD can be a harder one to work.

Pennsylvania QSO Party - 1600Z Oct. 11 - 0400Z Oct. 12, 1300Z - 2200Z Oct. 12. All bands except WARC (60, 30, 17 and 12). CW, Phone. Rules:http://paqso.org/pa-qso-party-rules.html. Staions will be hunting for us from the other QSO Parties. OctPOTAFest is this weekend so combine POTA with the PA QSO Party. Work other PA stations from rare PA counties and probably county-line stations, Rovers, mobiles and probably POTA sites too.



N3ZP's Contest Corner

October 18 - October 20

10 - 10 International Fall Contest, CW. 0001Z Oct. 18 - 2359Z Oct. 19. Worldwide. 10 Meters only. CW. Ruleshttps://www.ten-ten.org/qso-party-rules/. Work some 10 Meter CW in this full weekend contest.

New York QSO Party - 1400Z Oct. 18 - 0200Z Oct. 19. All bands except WARC. CW, SSB, Digital. Rules:https://www.nyqp.org/. Another state QSO Party to try. Work NY counties in this neighboring state. Work some on 80 and 40 Meters with NVIS propagation.

Stew Perry Top Band Challenge - 1500Z Oct. 18 - 1500Z Oct. 19. Worldwide. 160 Meters only. CW. Rules:https://www.kkn.net/stew/. A less crowded contest with a chance for DX. Points based on distance between stations. If you can load your antenna on 160 give it a try.

Illinois QSO Party - 1700Z Oct. 19 - 0100Z Oct. 20. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 Meters. CW, Phone, Digital (except FT4/FT8). Rules:https://w9awe.org/ilqp/. Work 75 IL counties with county line, Rovers and mobiles operating also.

YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest - 1400Z Oct. 18 - 0200Z Oct. 20. Worldwide. All bands except WARC. CW, SSB, Digital (separate log for CW/Digital). Rules:https://ylrl.net/contests/. This one is for the YLs. Let's get some of our YL members on the air.

October 25 - October 26

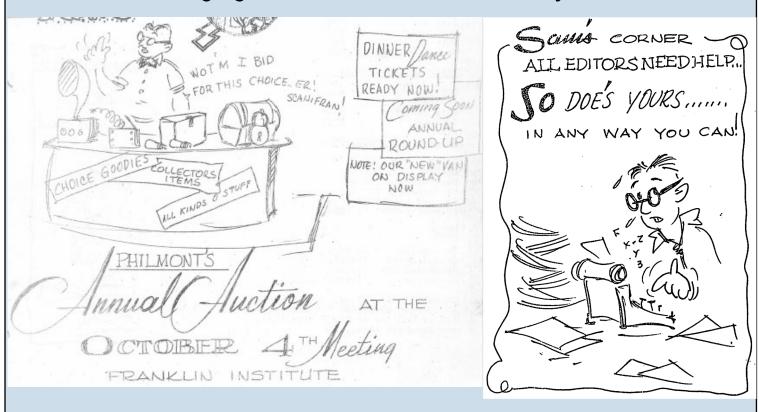
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB - 0000Z Oct. 25 - 2359Z Oct. 26. Worldwide. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. SSB. Rules:https://www.cqww.com/rules.htm. Probably the biggest contest of the year. Everyone works everyone. Simple exchange for us on the east coast, 59 05. Their's will be 59 and their zone, 1 through 40. Expect a lot of very big signals. Forget about SSB rag-chewing or PO-TA this weekend except on the WARC bands.

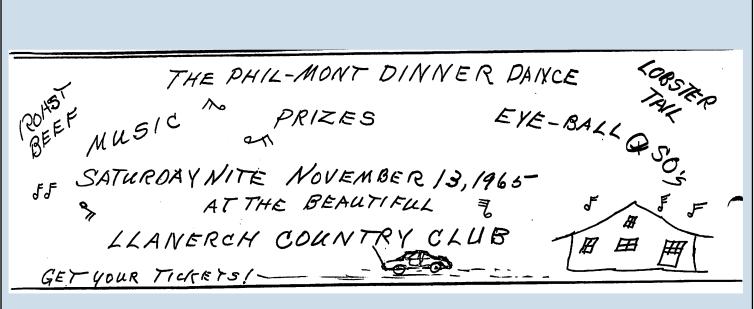
This completes October's activity. As always, you can reach out to me for assistance or advice in participating in a contest and logging. Phil N3ZP

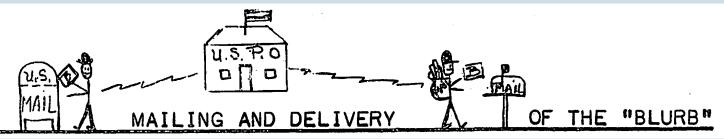


From the PMRC Archive...

Here are some highlights from this month in Blurb history, October 1965...







The Last Page



The Blurb wants to hear from YOU!

Got a hot lead on antenna design? Soldering up a special circuit? Digging some new DSP? Reminiscing about some retro receivers? Octoberbe you have some goodies for sale?

Click the big blue envelope

PMRC Officers for 2025

Officers

President: Rich AA3RC

Vice President: Greg KC3SMW

Treasurer: Jim NS3K

Secretary: Dave K3DFG

Board of Directors

KC3GJX Jeff (25) N3VIP Tony (26)

K3NOP Charlie (25) N3PEG Peg (26)

KC3UDZ Muggs (25) N3ZP Phil (26)

W3AOK Bill (A)

Blurb Editors:

Daniel Wagaman - W4GMN, SK Editor Emeritus

Richard Roth—AA3RC





Club Email List