



# *The* **Blurb**



*Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club*

*70 Years of Public Service, 1949-2019*

Volume 70 Number 6

[www.phil-mont.org](http://www.phil-mont.org)

June 2019

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***Board Meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup>, General Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>***

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*DDay 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is on June 6<sup>th</sup>*

*Father's day is on June 16<sup>th</sup>*

*Summer Solstice is on June 21*

*Field day is on June 22/23*

<p><i>The Blurb</i> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. <b>Copying and quoting</b> is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs.</p> <p>Requests should be sent to the Editor:  <b>Rick DeVigiliis ND3B@ARRL.net</b></p> <p><b>Subscriptions</b> are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer.</p> <p><b>Labels and mailing: KB3IV</b></p> <p><b>Submissions deadline:</b> All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.</p>	<p><b>Directors:</b>                  WA3DSP (20)                  WU3I(20)                  KB2ERL (20)                  K3RON (19)                  N3QV (19)                  KB3IV (19)                  NC3U (A)                  W3RM                  (EMERITUS)</p>	<p><b>Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 404 Warminster, PA 18974</b>  <a href="http://www.phil-mont.org">http://www.phil-mont.org</a>                  Website: Eric N3QV &amp; Andrew KC2PMW</p> <p><b>For club information:</b> Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: KB3IV</p>	
<p><b>Sunday Morning Net Schedules</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2 Meter/ 70cm Net</b>..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater</li> <li>• <b>10-on-10 Net</b> ..... at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)</li> <li>• <b>75 meter Net</b> ..... at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB</li> <li>• <b>ARES</b> at 2100L on the W3QV repeater</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Committees</b></p> <p>Blurb folding: KB3IV &amp; N3GLU                  Directory: KB3IV                  Field Day: KC2PMW                  Fusion Coord: NC3U</p>	<p>Internet: N3QV &amp; KC2PMW                  Membership: KB3IV                  Net Control: KB3IV</p>	<p>Program: W3AOK                  Refreshments: W3AOK                  Repeater: W3AOK</p>	<p>Scholarship: KB3IV                  Sunshine: N3GLU                  VE Program: NS3K                  Welcome: N3UBY                  Youth: KC2PMW</p>

**All visitors are welcome!**

The club meets at 7:00 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at Giant Supermarket, 315 York Rd, Willow Grove, PA  
 Maps and directions are available at [www.phil-mont.org](http://www.phil-mont.org).

**License Examinations** are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**

Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or [jmccloskey@msn.com](mailto:jmccloskey@msn.com) for the latest information.

**Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System**  
 Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**  
 147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz C4FM Fusion digital  
 Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R AllStar Node 41624  
**W3AA Trustee: WU3I**  
**W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV**

**The Officers**

**President: Greg Malone WA3GM** [gregmalone@yahoo.com](mailto:gregmalone@yahoo.com)  
**Vice President: Jim Fisher AJ3DI** [kc3bra@gmail.com](mailto:kc3bra@gmail.com)  
**Treas: WB3DZZ** [GeorgeGianios@verizon.net](mailto:GeorgeGianios@verizon.net)  
**Secretary: W3AFV** [chuckfarrell@comcast.net](mailto:chuckfarrell@comcast.net)

## The Prez Sez ...



Hello Phil-Mont

I am glad I was able to open the May meeting of the PMRC remotely but sorry that I could not be there personally.

For those of you who don't know I was diagnosed with Colon Cancer a while ago and was operated on April 23. After being released from the hospital I was home for 3-4 days and had to be readmitted as it seems that I picked up some kind of C Diff infection at the hospital which required another week of hospitalization and treatment which was worse than the operation.

I went to the doctor the other day and he is happy with the progress. He says that I am **CLEAR & CLEAN** and good to go... I just have to take it easy for a while and nothing too strenuous and report back to him in 3 months.

To that end let me remind you all... Men & women alike. **GET YOURSELVES CHECKED!!!!** Early detection is key and I am a lucky guy. Never did I ever think I would hear the words **YOU HAVE CANCER!!!!** It puts a whole new perspective on life...

OK on a happier note Field Day is approaching quickly. June 22 & 23 will be the dates this year. We will again be at Ft. Washington State Park 420 Militia Hill Rd, Fort Washington, PA 19034.

Our Field Day Coordinator again for this year is Bob KB2ERL. Band Captains please get in touch with Bob KB2ERL ASAP so we can firm up plans. I believe as of this writing we still need a 10 meter band captain. All members are encouraged to come out and visit and more importantly operate during field day. If you can provide any advance notice of the times you can operate that would be much appreciated. This is NOT a fast paced contest type environment. This is a fun family type

environment as well as checking our readiness for emergency type operations so come out and join us. This would be a good opportunity to bring the kids and the grandkids so they can operate. Some of us should be arriving at around Noon time on Friday to get things rolling. If you can lend a hand please come out and help.

As always Steve WU3I is providing us with meals throughout the weekend. Come savor whatever delicacies Steve has in store for us. Those attending Field Day **PLEASE** get in touch with Steve, WU3I and let him know which meals you will partaking so he can prepare the proper amount of food thus assuring that **YOU** will not go hungry.

The Phil-Mont general meeting in May was very well attended by members and visitors.

I would like to thank Barry K3EUI for his fine presentation on Antennas: Truths & Myths. Thanks Barry as always very informative.

June 12<sup>th</sup> is our next club meeting. All those operating Field Day now will be the time to firm up all that we need to do.

### July/August Summer Break

If anyone has any suggestions for a speaker or would like to speak at one of our meetings please let any of the club officers or board members know. Your input is vital and we welcome all suggestions.

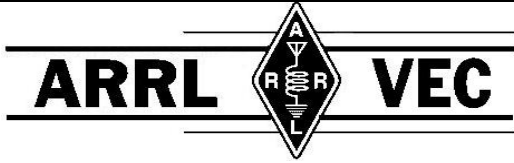
Don't forget to sign up for the Phil-Mont Yahoo Group. We currently have 40+ members. This is a good way to share ideas amongst the membership. Thanks to Sal NC3U for starting and moderating the group. For more info and to join the group contact Sal.

See you all at the next meeting.

**73, Greg WA3GM**

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*And we're all glad you're fully recovered!*



*The Thursday evening session is  
On the 27th this month.*

*As always, many thanks to our VE team!*

## *Phil-Mont Birthdays & Tidbytes*

### **JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

04 Dick Moll - W3RM  
 06 Andrew Neustadter - AB3XT  
     Jane Lamb - KC3DDP  
 08 James Lanigan - WA3ERQ  
 13 Ronald Rubin - K3RON  
 15 Caitlin Brady – W3CJB  
     John Coupe - WA3BXH  
 17 Kathleen Johns-(XYL K3JQH)  
 18 Sal Marandola-NC3U  
     Megan Malone-KC3HUE  
 20 Robert Witmer-W3RW  
 21 Sharon Roth (XYL K2RSJ)  
 22 Richard Roth- K2RSJ  
 27 Walter Beattie-AA3WB  
 30 Mike Lenczynski - KA3EIP  
     Fred Rice - WA3KIO

### **MEMBERSHIP STATS**

112 FULL PAID MEMBERS  
 10 FAMILY MEMBERS  
 1 YOUTH MEMBERS  
 2 HONORARY MEMBER

### **New Member Applications**

Jonathon Barnett KC3MIN  
 Tech  
 Willow Grove, Pa

Joeseeph Greenbaum KD2FWG  
 General  
 Meadowbrook, Pa.

## *From the Secretary*

*General meeting 5/8/2019*

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Jim, AJ3DI  
 Greg, WA3GM joined us via phone  
 Repeater Update Bill, W3AOK  
 Everything is OK

Kenwood repeater has been ordered  
 Treasurer's Report Ed, KB3IV

We have money

Membership Report Ed, KB3IV

Two new members (introduced last month)

Visitors

3, whose names and call signs I did not catch  
 DEN Report Ron, NY3J

Still using FIDigi suite of products for check-ins  
 and traffic

Planning to experiment with FT4

Reminder about the PaNBEMS net every  
 Sunday at 8:00 AM on 3583

VE Report

8 candidates, 4 new Techs, 3 upgrades to

General and 1 upgrade to Extra

Next session Thursday 5/23

Tour de Cure Michael, WB1JEY

Still need volunteers

Philadelphia ARES

Number of check-ins to the Sunday night net is  
 increasing

### **Old Business**

All of the equipment purchased from K3GBA's  
 estate has been picked up

Field Day Steve, WU3I

Sign up for the meals

Sign up for bands

### **New Business**

Proposed Trivia Net

Any interest?

Ideas for other nets?

Business Meeting closed at 7:17 PM

Presentation on Antennas – Truths and Myths by  
 Barry, K3EUI

**Chuck Farrell**  
 W3AFV

## Getting loaded (antenna-wise, anyway)

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

A couple of years ago, I homebrewed a "Cobra" antenna (<https://www.kb6nu.com/yet-another-new-antenna-the-cobra/>). It's a doublet antenna, meaning that it consists of two elements connected to a center insulator, where it connects to a feedline. The unique thing about the Cobra antenna is that each element consists of three parallel conductors connected in series.

My antenna uses a lightweight, three-conductor rotor cable that used to be available from Radio Shack. The feedline is 450  $\Omega$  ladder line that connects to an antenna tuner to give me multi-band operation.

Connecting the conductors in this way is supposed to provide "linear loading." Somehow, running the conductors in parallel is supposed to increase the antenna's effective length. My antenna is only 73-ft. long, but it easily tunes up on 80m. The *ARRL Antenna Book* has a short section on linear loading. It says that linear loading is a "little understood" alternative to inductive loading that can be applied to almost any type of antenna.

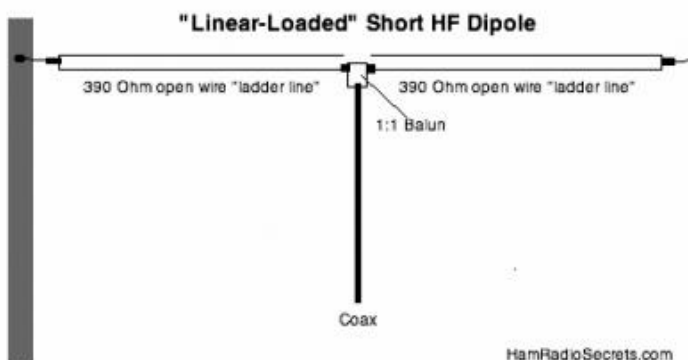
Furthermore, "...it introduces very little loss, does not degrade directivity patterns, and has low enough Q to allow reasonably good bandwidths."

As I mentioned, I've been using this antenna with good results for a little more than two years now. When I first put it up, someone mentioned the concept of linear loading to me, but not being an antenna guru, I didn't 'give it much thought. About a week ago, though, I ran across a link to the page *Short Ham Antennas for HF* (<https://www.hamradiosecrets.com/short-ham-antennas.html>). That got me thinking about the topic again.

This page describes a way to build a linearly-loaded dipole antenna with a feedpoint impedance of approximately 35  $\Omega$ . This allows you to feed it with coax instead of the ladder line that I use. The author uses 390  $\Omega$  ladder line for the elements. He says it's commonly available, but I don't think I've ever seen 390  $\Omega$  ladder line. You could probably use 450  $\Omega$  ladder line by adjusting the element lengths a little. At that point, I started Googling. The next linear-loaded antenna design that I ran across is a design from M0PZT (<http://www.m0pzt.com/40m-linear-loaded-dipole/>). He built his elements from some sturdy wire and homebrewed spacers made from PVC pipe. He's used this design for the 40m elements of a fan dipole covering the 40m, 20m, 15m, and 12m bands. Only the 40m elements are linear-loaded.

I also found a design for a linear loaded vertical antenna for 40m and 80m (<https://www.qsl.net/pa3hbb/11.htm>). This antenna is only 7.736m, or 25.4 ft. tall. Of course, it requires a good radial system to work well, but it will work a lot better for DX than a low doublet or dipole. Finally, there's an eHam discussion on linear loading (<https://www.eham.net/ehamforum/smf/index.php?topic=84418.0>). Unlike a lot of eHam discussions, this one is quite civil. It's worth reading if you're interested in the topic.

So, if you're thinking of getting loaded, errrrr, I mean loading your antennas, here's a method for you to consider. It works!



***June at Phil-Mont***

***Don't forget the ARES net on Sunday nights and the Digital net on Tuesday nights.***

- 2 Sun KC3DII
- 5 Wed Board Meeting
- 6 DDay 1944
- 9 Sun NC3U
- 12 Wed General Meeting
- 16 Sun KB3IV  
    Father's Day
- 21 Fri Summer Begins
- 22/23 Field Day
- 23 Sun WA3GTL
- 27 Thur VE Session
- 30 Sun N3QV

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***First Class Mail***

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