



# *The* **Blurb**



*Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club*

*69 Years of Public Service, 1949-2018*

Volume 69 Number 6

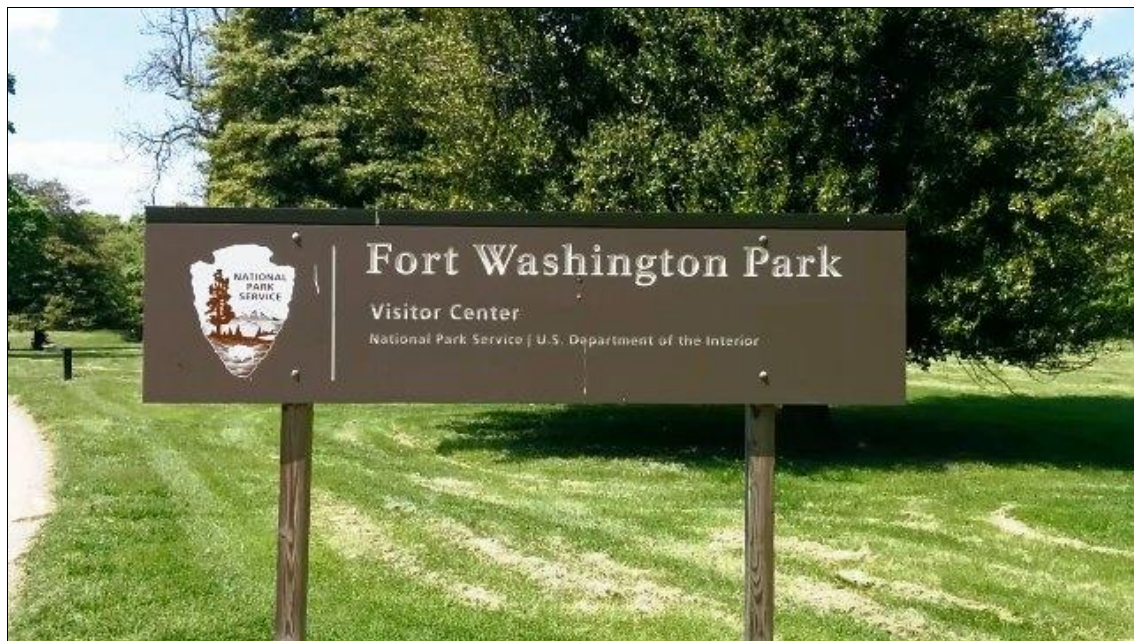
[www.phil-mont.org](http://www.phil-mont.org)

June 2018

***General Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>***

**Flag Day  
Father's Day  
Breakfast at Andy's: see [phil-mont.org](http://phil-mont.org) for details  
Summer Solstice  
Field Day**

*And Some nice items for sale on page 5*



***This must be the place!***

<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. Requests should be sent to the Editor: <b>Rick DeVigiliis ND3B@ARRL.net</b> <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>                  AJ3DI (18)                  WA3DSP (18)                  KB2ERL (18)                  K3RON (19)                  N3QV (19)                  WB3DZZ (19)                  W3AOK (A)                  W3RM                  (EMERITUS)</p>		<p><b>Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 404 Warminster, PA 18974</b>                  http://www.phil-mont.org                  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>                  Blurbs folding: KB3IV &amp; N3GLU                  Directory: KB3IV                  Field Day: KC2PMW                  Fusion Coord: NC3U</p>		<p>Internet: N3QV &amp; KC2PMW                  Membership: K3HWG                  Net Control: KB3IV</p>		<p>Program: W3AOK                  Publicity: W3RM                  Refreshments: W3AOK                  Repeater: W3AOK</p>		<p>Scholarship: W3RM                  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  
**W3AA Trustee: WU3I**  
**W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV**

**The Officers**

**President:** NC3U Sal Marandola [nc3u@verizon.net](mailto:nc3u@verizon.net)  
**Vice President:** WA3GM Greg Malone [wa3gm@yahoo.com](mailto:wa3gm@yahoo.com)  
**Treas:** KB3IV Ed Masarsky [kb3iv@comcast.net](mailto:kb3iv@comcast.net)  
**Secretary:** WU3I Steve Hoch [wu3i@arrl.net](mailto:wu3i@arrl.net)

***The Prez Sez ...***

Hello Phil-Mont Members,

FIELD DAY is right around the corner! I hope all our club members come out and enjoy our field day at Fort Washington State Park. There will be stations set up on all bands. GOTA station will be set up for new hams as well as people looking to see how digital modes are operated as well. Bring a friend who may be interested in the hobby. Bring your spouse and children all are welcome. Remember its all about having FUN.

Please make sure you check in with Bob KB2ERL before setting up. We have band filters this year and logging software. If you're going to stay and plan to eat make sure you contact Steve WU3I to let him know what meals you plan to make. Please park in designated spots and not on the grass.

I would like to thank everyone who helps make Phil-Mont the club that it is, from the officers to the people who update web sites and face book and our all important repeater

gurus and system operators. Everything helps us be the best Radio Club in the area.

Hopefully please listen to the nets and read the emails from the Philmontmobileradio newsgroup.

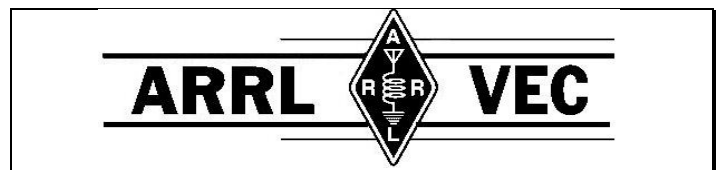
If anyone has an idea please send me an email at [nc3u@verizon.net](mailto:nc3u@verizon.net).

Don't forget that Phil-Mont has a Yahoo mailing list. This is one of the best ways to get some up to date news on things going on at the club. Look up philmontmobileradioclub in the Yahoo list and you will find us.

I hope to see everyone at a meeting and have the opportunity to shake your hand.

Remember we are not a club without YOU

*73, Sal NC3U*



***Thursday evening session is on the 28<sup>th</sup> this month. There is a Saturday morning session as well on the 16<sup>th</sup>.***

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

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## *Phil-Mont Birthdays & Tidbytes*

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 04 Dick Moll - W3RM  
Delores Gift (XYL K3HWG)
- 06 Andrew Neustadter - KC3CXT
- 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)  
Brian Gradel - KC3EQF
- 22 Richard Roth- K2RSJ
- 27 Walter Beattie-AA3WB
- 30 Mike Lenczynski - KA3EIP  
Fred Rice - WA3KIO

### MEMBERSHIP STATS

- 112 Full paid Members
- 10 Family Members
- 2 Youth members
- 1 Honorary Member

## **Is the internet, millennials or FT-8 killing ham radio?**

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Amateur radio bloggers love to write about the demise of amateur radio. To wit, we have:

- K0NR's Is the Internet destroying amateur radio?  
(<http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/2017/11/internet-destroying-amateur-radio/>)
- N0SSC's Millennials are killing ham radio  
(<http://n0ssc.com/posts/583-millennials-are-killing-ham-radio>)

- PE4BAS' Is FT-8 damaging amateur radio?  
(<https://pe4bas.blogspot.com/2018/04/is-ft8-damaging-hamradio.html>)
- NZ0T's Did Joe Taylor K1JT Destroy Amateur Radio?  
(<http://www.ei5di.com/jt.html>)

Of course, none of these posts are really saying that the internet, millennials, or FT-8 has killed amateur radio. What they are saying is that all of these are changing amateur radio as we know it. Well, duh, the way we live our lives changes every day. Why should amateur radio be any different?

For example, Bob, K0NR, discusses how the operation of remote stations is changing the game of DX. Can you really claim that you worked a DX station if you rented time on a super station? I've written about that topic, too

(<https://www.kb6nu.com/dx-advisory-committee-wants-to-put-the-screws-to-remote-operation/>).

There has also been much written about how FT8 is changing the amateur radio game. One blog post (<https://ve7sl.blogspot.com/2017/10/160m-ft8-end-of-era.html>), talking about the effect of FT8 on 160m operation, even goes so far to say that this is the "end of an era." On DX World, the results of the poll, "FT8 – Damaging to Amateur Radio?" (<https://dx-world.net/yes-or-no-a-poll-on-ft8/>) show more than half of the respondents think that FT8 is damaging amateur radio.

I specifically used the word "game" in the previous two paragraphs because that's exactly what's changing. The physics of amateur radio certainly isn't changing. Our transmitters are still generating electromagnetic waves like they have been for decades, and on the HF bands, anyway, those radio waves are bouncing off the ionosphere just as they have been for more than the past 100 years.

What's changing is the human component. By that I mean what's changing is how we think people should participate in the hobby. The hams that are complaining that the internet or millennials or FT8 is killing amateur radio are really just complaining that people aren't participating in amateur radio the way they want them to participate.

Here's where we talk about millennials. In his blog post, Sterling, N0SSC, suggests that setting up remote stations is one way to engage young people. He writes, "I believe that remote operating, and

other internet-assisted means of ham radio operation, are critical to youth engagement.” He’s also big on an idea he calls “ham radio hackathons.” He writes, “A hackathon isn’t a coding competition. It’s explained well in this Medium article (<https://medium.com/hackathons-anonymous/wtf-is-a-hackathon-92668579601>). It goes even further than that, not limited to coders and engineers, but open to thinkers, doers, philosophers, system engineers, math people, teachers, students, artists, stakeholders... anyone with an interest in **solving a problem with technology.**”

I support both of these ideas, but I think that millennials (and, to be fair, it isn’t just millennials we’re talking about here, but any newcomers to the hobby) need to step up and get these things going. I don’t think it’s my job to try to get kids interested in amateur radio. I don’t even know if that’s really possible. What I can do, however, is be there to encourage and support kids (and anyone else that expresses a sincere interest in amateur radio). For example, I’m not sure how fruitful it would be to set up my station to be remotely operable and then saying to some kids, “Hey, come and operate my station.” What I think would be more fruitful is to say to a kid, “Hey, come help me set up my remote control station, so that we both can use it.” Then, it turns into a learning situation, and we both gain from the exercise.

The same kind of thing has to happen with ham radio hackathons. The motivation has to come from the ground up, not the top down. I do hope that this idea gets off the ground, though, and I’m standing by, ready to support this effort however I can. I think that millennials (I’m really getting tired of that term, by the way) need to grab the bull by the horns and take amateur radio in the direction they want it to go. Feel free to kill amateur radio as we know it. Make it better!

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When he's not trying to figure out how to save amateur radio, Dan builds stuff, blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, teaches amateur radio classes, and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him about what you think is killing amateur radio at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

## For Sale

Icom 728-

Purchased by me from Icom directly at Dayton Hamvention. 100% perfect in all respects. Original paperwork, box, mike, power cable - all as delivered. Used very little.

Asking \$500

W3AAD

Stephen Gansky

[sgansky@me.com](mailto:sgansky@me.com)

C) 215-990-5300

## For Sale:

32’ Aluminum extension ladder asking \$85.00

30’ Rohn 25 tower disassembled in 3 sections asking \$140.00

For pickup in Willow Grove Pa.

Contact

Rick Spencer N3FD

215-659-8469 home phone

Thanks Rick Spencer

Paul K3RBO over at HARC has some items for sale, call him if interested: 267-966-7654

Kenwood TM-731a Dual Band mobile radio

Radio Shack vintage laptop computer. 1400 FD w/ cassette drive for program loading. Radio Shack TRS-80 Model 100 portable computer. Acer computer. Some freebies too.

*De Saul, W3WHK*

***June at Phil-Mont***

- 3 Sun KC3DII
- 6 Wed D Day 1944
- 10 Sun NC3U
- 13 Wed General Meeting
- 14 Thur Flag Day
- 16 Sat Morning VE Session  
Breakfast at Andy's
- 17 Sun KB3IV  
Father's Day
- 21 Thur Summer Begins
- 23/24 Sat/Sun Field Day
- 24 Sun KB3IV
- 28 Thur VE Session

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

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**For Sale**

***1/8" (290#) & 3/16" (380#) Dark Olive Drab Braided Cord · 100% Polyester/Dacron Knit Braided. Nice stuff! Tough and long lasting · UV Resistant and Low Stretch Proudly Made in the U.S.A.! Contact Steve WU3I at wu3i@arrl.net or 215-605-6074***

***DAIWA CS 201 Two position SO239 Coax Switch \$25.00 each. I have 5.  
Bill K3HWG K3HWG@arrl.net***

***First Class Mail***

1700 Street Rd. Apt. H3, Warrington PA, 18976  
The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc

