



The Blurb



Newsletter of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

72 Years of Public Service: 1949-2021

VOLUME 72 Number 5

www.phil-mont.org

May 2021

Hello Phil-Mont!

Hey there! This is the first edition of the Blurb written by your new editor, me, Daniel Wagaman (W4GMN). "Written" is a bit generous, more like aggregated, or if feeling a little more hip and now, curated by me. I look forward to sharing *EVERYTHING* you find exciting about Ham Radio. Building your own gear, DXing, checking into your favorite Net, looking forward to Field Day, you name it!

As your new editor please heed my plea: **THIS IS AN OPEN CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS, REQUESTS FOR ARTICLES, QUESTIONS AND PICTURES OF YOUR FAVORITE GEAR AND EVENTS.***

What excites you about Ham Radio? What do you want to know more about? If you had to tell a new Ham three things about Ham Radio what would they be? What do you think Ham Radio looks like in ten years? Twenty years? Thirty? What did your shack look like 20 years ago? Why did you become a Ham? City Hams, how do you get on HF? Country Hams, what's your favorite antenna set up? Service Hams how are you helping make Ham Radio a public service in the event of an emergency? How would you like other Hams to help you prepare to serve in that event? All Hams, what projects do you want to complete by the end of the year? What's your dream shack look like? I want to know! **Send all questions, comments, concerns, and catharsis to your dutiful editor at:**

Blurb@hilmontmobileradioclub.groups.io

* Yes, I'm talking to you! Don't be bashful!

∞ Dan W4GMN

Editor, The Blurb



Get The Net!



There's no ham radio without YOU! Get on the air and share! Operate, cooperate, & celebrate ham radio!

Sunday Morning Nets

0930:

- 2m, [Echolink W3QV-R](#)
- [ALLSTAR](#) 47970
- 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
- Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)

1000:

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

1030:

- 10 meter Net (28.393 MHz USB +/- QRM)

[BECOME A NET CONTROL STATION](#)

Drive Time Net

When:

Monday - Friday 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. EST

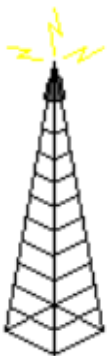
Where:

- 2m, [Echolink W3QV-R](#)
- [ALLSTAR](#) 47970
- 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
- Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)

[BECOME A NET CONTROL STATION](#)

May Net Control

Schedule



- 30 – N3QV
- 2 – K2RSJ
- 9 – WA3GM
- 16 – WU3I
- 23 – KB3SJS



Hey there. It's me, mic.
Listen, we need to talk...

Club Business

NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

Wednesday May 12th
19:00 EST

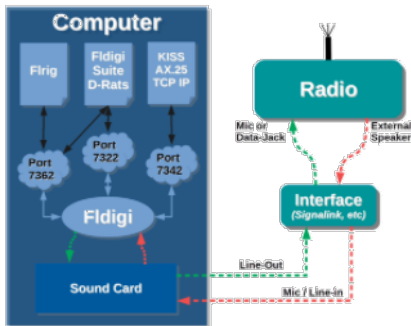
SEE THE ACTION ON [ZOOM](#)

OR LISTEN LIVE:

[2M repeater](#)
147.030 (+91.5 PL)

Bucks and North 147.030 (+88.5 PL)
ALLSTAR NODE [47970](#) or Echolink W3QV-R

This Month's Topic:
K3EUI Barry
Soundcard Modes
(not FT8)



REPEATERS

VHF: 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
[ECHOLINK W3QV-R](#) & [ALLSTAR 47970](#)
Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)

UHF: 444.80 MHz Yaesu System Fusion
WiresX

[EMAIL REPEATER COMMITTEE](#)

MEMBERSHIP STATS

At press time P.M.R.C. has:

- 119 Full paid members
- 10 Family members
- 2 Youth members

Honorary Members:

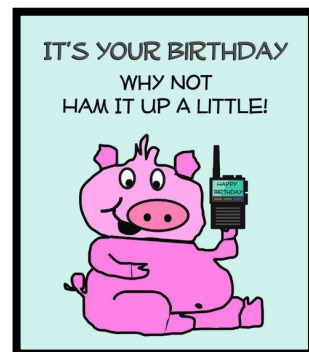
Elaine Spencer
Richard Moll - W3RM

New Members Pending:

Fred Peifer - KC3QCZ General
John Christopher - KI3J Extra
Austin Seraphin - KA3TTT General

MAY BIRTHDAYS!

- 05 Paul Policarpo N3PP
Patrick Taylor W3HVG
- 11 Benjamin Krevsky WD8RYV
- 15 Doug Crompton WA3DSP
- 20 James Prumachuk KZ4JIM
- 28 Peggy Kaufmann KB3DID
- 29 Maggie Leber K3XS
- 30 Bill Chedeville W3GQD
- 31 Joyce Mitchell (XYL) KC3CEW



April General Meeting Minutes

- **Called to order** by K2RSJ at 7:00 PM
- **Secretary's report** in the Blurb
- **Repeater Report** - K2RSJ
- **Board approved** additional repairs to the repeater and tower
- **Treasurer's Report** - KB3IV
- **Membership Report** - KB3IV
 - 3 pending members
 - John Beck KC3RMX
 - Charles Wright KD3HAM
 - Benjamin Krevsky WD8RYV
- **New Business** - K2RSJ
- **New Blurb Editor:** Dan W4GMN
- **Field Day** preparation commencing soon
- **13 Colonies** – Phil-Mont will participate again this year
- **Presentation** - Emergency and Portable Operations Walt KB3SBC
 - 26 on Zoom
 - 2 check-ins on Repeater
 - 4 on Allstar / EchoLink
- **Meeting closed** by AJ3DI at 8:03

Philadelphia ARES Training Updates

Cliff Hotchkiss
KC3PGT

Philadelphia County



ARES

1. In May we will be going through the ARRL's EC-001 "Introduction to Emergency Communication" course.
2. Our training sessions are held on Sunday Evenings at 9pm on the Phil-Mont repeater, EchoLink, and AllStar.
3. We have a new website:

www.phlARES.org

HOW THE BLURB GOT ITS NAME

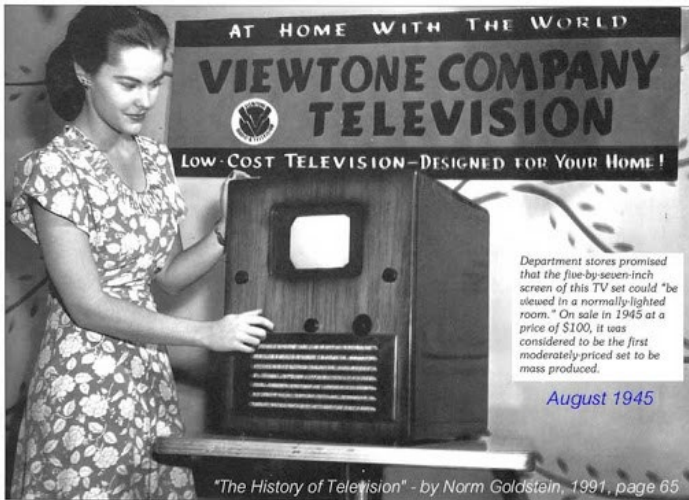
Whimsy over custom

Bob Thomas, W3NE

Amateur radio club newsletters typically have names closely related to terminology commonly used in the hobby. Thus, we are likely to see club bulletins with names like *The Carrier*, *Signal Report*, *DX Update*, or *The Repeater*. So how come the Phil-Mont newsletter has the slightly screwy name *Blurb*? Well, to make a short story long, it all began at the end of WW-II.

When the war ended in September 1945. GIs flooded back home, eager to get on with their lives. For many hams, one of the things that meant was firing-up their pre-war "cool kilowatt" rig and getting back on one of the five HF bands available then. On Friday nights and at other popular operating times, the 75-meter phone band was one solid heterodyne from 3900 to 4000 kc. (the limits for 75M phone operation on the band in those days).

Attention of the public and adoration in 1946 and new TV receivers proliferated over the land by the millions; they were designed specifically to receive television stations with no regard for possible interference by RF from sources other than television stations.



"The History of Television" - by Norm Goldstein, 1991, page 65

The rest of 75, and all of 40 meters were not as bad because they were CW-only bands then. Nevertheless, hams were back on the air again and managed, somehow, to cope with whatever conditions confronted them! Euphoria among hams continued unabated until new television programming caught the



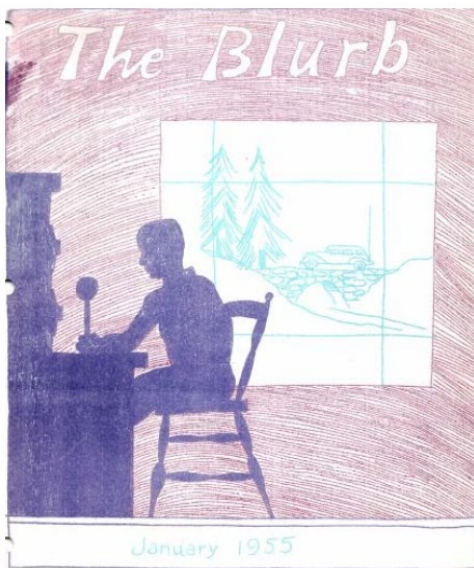
From an article about Ham Radio back in the early days of Phil-Mont

They had no shielding – none – and RF input circuits were broad and "wide open" with no attempt to trap out or bypass to ground any high level non-TV signals that caused cross-modulation in low level RF stages. Once inside one of these crude, broad

...continued on page 6

TV sets, interfering RF disabled critical synchronizing circuits, wiped out or interfered with pictures and got into the audio.

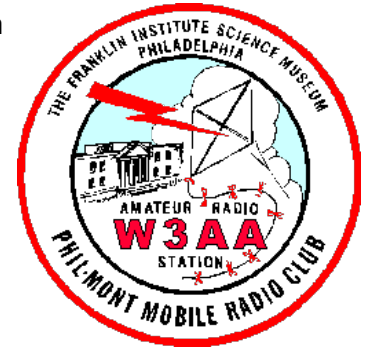
Irate viewers did not take kindly to hams in their neighborhood, who were blamed, rightly or wrongly, for every picture blip, roll or jagged interference pattern. It didn't take long for TVI from amateur stations to surpass a critical level, when the howl from viewers (still ignored by profit-driven manufacturers) finally attracted the attention of the FCC. The Commission, sensitive to political implications, usually took the easy way out where chronic TVI existed by imposing "quiet hours" on suspect hams: *no operation between 7 PM and 11PM*, the very time most working hams had available for their hobby. You can imagine how that went down with the amateur community!



OK, it was war, and one obvious way for hams to combat TVI and all its problems was to institute a simple maneuver: *Keep Moving – go mobile!* By operating from a car, hams escaped fuming telephone calls from irate neighbors wanting them off the air – or worse! It soon became a blood sport for some aggressive hams, as they drove through residential neighborhoods, watching pictures on living room TV sets quiver and flip when they transmitted as they passed by. Not the best image for amateur radio perhaps, but a satisfying experience shared with glee at Phil-Mont meetings and across the ham bands. The many advantages of mobile operation were on the minds of a small

Group of hams in the northern suburbs when they got together on December 12, 1949 to form a new club. The new organization, loosely known as the Phil-Mont Radio Club at first, eventually became the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club. The club published a newsletter for the first time in December 1954. Its founder/editor was George King, W3PXY, who named it *The TVI Retreat* in recognition of mobile radio as a tactical retreat from TVI.

George's monthly creation was six pages of solid printing, covering club business and members' news presented in the quirky, humorous style of its erudite editor. In his introductory remarks in the first page of that first issue, George remarked, "I'll try to get tis blurb out Once a month." So, from the very beginning, the PMRC newsletter was destined to be called *The Blurb!*



Originally licensed as W3TKQ on
March 5, 1952
First contact April 5, 1952

The changeover in name did not happen immediately; *TVI Retreat* continued to be published for the next four months during which interval its formal name and "blurb" were used interchangeably by members in conversation.

As we know though, hams, have been historically prone to abbreviate their language, as with Q-Code equivalents for common expressions, S-numbers for signal strength, etc. That is, we have always tended to adopt the shortest word to describe everything, so it was inevitable that *Blurb* would eventually supersede a more elaborate title. After protracted discussion during the last midmonth meeting of 1954, we agreed to drop the descriptive, though cumbersome, *TVI Retreat* and formally re-name our newsletter *The Blurb*. And the rest, as they say, is history!

Note: This article is based on the author's personal recollections of his early Phil-Mont days, supplemented by historic club documents aggregated, scanned, and compiled by Doug Crompton, WA3DSP for production of his monumental DVD of club history.

The Prez Sez...

Hello Phil-Mont,

EVERY. SINGLE. MINUTE.

December 12, 1949 Club Formed: **37,545,120 minutes** ago.

<http://www.phil-mont.org/images/1st-mins.gif>

W3TKQ station at Franklin Institute: April 5, 1952

36,328,320 minutes ago.

<http://phil-mont.org/tfi-hist.html>

Every Single Minute Video created sometime in 1959

32,523,840 minutes ago.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9uBy0GyQOA>

^^WATCH it in its entirety ^^ if you've seen it before, watch it again.

Phil-Mont's Franklin Institute Station May 1962.

31,032,000 minutes ago.

<http://www.phil-mont.org/images/glass.jpg>

Franklin Institute Station Call changed to W3AA of recently

deceased club member Harold Fox, W3AA. July 30, 1996

13,019,040 minutes ago.

<http://phil-mont.org/images/logo-3aa.gif>

Sadly, the end of the Franklin Institute Station, sometime in September 2002.

9,796,320 minutes ago.

Last Trustee, Steve Hoch, WU3I <http://phil-mont.org/wu3i.html>

Lighthouse Weekend Event August 17, 2019. **897,120 minutes** ago.

<http://phil-mont.org/illw2019/illw2019.html>

Last in person General Meeting. February 12, 2020.

639,360 minutes ago.

<http://phil-mont.org/presos/presos.html>

Drive Time Net debut January 18th, 2021. **148,320 minutes** ago.

Drive Time Net goes daily, Monday through Friday, January 25, 2021.

138,240 minutes ago.

<https://philmontmobileradioclub.groups.io/g/main/message/637>

TODAY - YOU - READING THE Blurb by our new Editor, Dan W4GMN.

<http://phil-mont.org/blurb/Blurb.html>

Next General Meeting, May 12, 2021. **15,840 minutes away.**

<http://phil-mont.org/>

<https://groups.io/g/Philmontmobileradioclub>

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-6390552>

<https://www.facebook.com/philmontmobileradio>

Field Day June 26, 2021. **80,640 minutes away.**

<http://phil-mont.org/FD2021/fieldday2021.html>

Find a minute. Play radio. Time flies. There are plenty of minutes to fill.

EVERY SINGLE MINUTE remember, this is YOUR Club, YOUR repeaters. USE them. MONITOR them. BE A REPEATER GREETER. Answer calls when you can. Let's try to leave **NO CALL UNANSWERED.**

PLAY*BREAK*LEARN



jim fisher

AJ3DI

www.aj3di.com

HamshackHotline ext: 14423

"Do, or do not. There is no 'try.'"

∞Jedi Master Yoda

THANK YOU KB3SBC Walt

and

the [Education Alliance for Amateur Radio](#)

For the **April Presentation**

Emergency and Portable Operations

[VIDEO](#)

[Preso Links](#)

[Presentation](#)



Thank you Jeff & Rick!

I just want to let the Club know how lucky we are in this area (and beyond) to have Amateurs who work in the Professional RF world and give so freely to the Amateur Community.

Giving their Easter Saturday (cold) morning to help THIS CLUB.

Jeff, WN3A. His networks are where I started my hobby. Got started listening to N3KZ and it's cast of characters. Quickly bumped into W3WAN and its Allstar connected backend and talked all over the State and the world. Listened (unworthy) to W3SBE until one day I had the courage to key up. 147.270....monster. Roxborough, then Bucktown. Available to the whole area. DMR, WR3IRS putting DMR RF all throughout the area.

Rick, WC2K. If you wake up early enough you can hear Rick everyday on South Jersey repeaters (and simplex). I've listened to Rick for years on my ride to work. Got to work with him virtually for the past few years with the MS150. Hear him helping hams all the time with antennas, radios, power supplies, and good information.

Well yesterday, I got to meet them in person as they gave freely of their time to help us address issues with the tower and the repeater.

Hard to imagine but they are *more* awesome in person than on the air or in my imagination. Consummate Professionals and extremely down to earth folks. I cannot thank them enough for what they have done for me personally in this hobby, and what they are currently doing for this Club.

I just want to let the club and everyone in the area know how fortunate we are to have folks like this in our hobby.

- AJ3DI

Notes from the Club

Philadelphia County



Philadelphia ARES

Amateur Radio Emergency Services

Every Sunday evening at 2100 (9:00 PM)

147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)

Club Email List



PMRC Officers for 2021

EMAIL THE BOARD

President: AJ3DI Jim
Vice President: K2RSJ Rich
Treasurer: KB3IV Ed
Secretary: W3AFV Chuck

Board of Directors:
N3QV Eric(21)
K3RON Ron(21)
WA2UAR Jay(21)
KB2ERL Bobby(22)
NC3U Sal(22)
W3UP Dick(22)
KC3GJX Jeff(A)

