



# The Blurb



*Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club  
Public Service Since 1949*

Volume 75 Number 1

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



## 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. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928*

# 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 1700 to 1800 ET on our VHF Repeater, Allstar or Echolink

## DENn-Digital Education 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.

## Tinker Net

3rd Saturdays 0900-1030 ET in non-Radio-Labs Months on our VHF Repeater, Allstar or Echolink

## Philadelphia ARES

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

## **CLUB REPEATERS**

VHF: 147.030 MHz  
(+offset 91.5 PL)

Bucks County and North PL 88.5  
(147.030)

UHF: 444.80 MHz Yaesu System  
Fusion WiresX  
[ECHOLINK W3QV-R](#) &

[ALLSTAR 47970](#)

[EMAIL REPEATER COMMITTEE](#)

Phil-Mont Simplex Frequency  
147.510MHz PL91.5 TSQ

**CQ! CQ! CQ!**

**Calling CQ for New Net Control Operators!**

[Click Here and Sign Up Today! It's a Fun Way to Meet Our Members!](#)

## Sunday Morning Nets

Three Nets on three bands, all in a Row!

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)

**1020 EDT:**

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

## **JANUARY** Sunday Net Control Schedule

**1/7/2024 KB3SJS**

**1/14/2024 W3UP**

**1/21/2024 WA3GM**

**1/28/2024 W3MHP**



# Club Business

## NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

Wednesday, January 10th  
NOT AT THE GIANT, at the:

### **Ben Wilson Senior Activity Center**

580 Delmont Ave. Warminster, PA 18974

5:30-6:30 Setup

7PM AUCTION Starts!

**Auction Surprise:**

**AJ3DI ESTATE**

**ITEMS FOR SALE**

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Linus Chen-Plotkin, KC3TUY, 1/10

Art Clemons, N8BLK, 1/12

John Bates, KC3CEW, 1/14

*Want your Birthday read  
on the Nets? Update your  
info at [hamclubonline.com](http://hamclubonline.com)*

## New Club Members

**KC3WGN, Edward Greipp, Technician**

**KC3YBR, Jim Spratt, Technician**



welcomes you!

# Phil-Mont Membership Statistics

December 2023

## Member Types Statistics: (Active Members)

REGULAR Membership	165
Honorary	3
Additional Family Member (EACH	8
Student Membership	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>

Philadelphia



ARES

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 [Groups.io](https://www.groups.io) and visit [PHLARES.org](https://www.phlares.org).

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

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

# The Prez Sez...

Fellow Phil-Monters,

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Time to keep those resolutions. You know, lose weight, exercise more, eat better, find a new job, etc. WHAT AM I SAYING!?! I mean resolutions like: buy another radio, finally put an actual mobile radio in your car, get your POTA setup squared away, do your first POTA activation, put up another antenna at home, and learn another mode like FT8, FL(whatever), Win-Link, Allstar, D-Star, DMR, Fusion and of course CW!



## A Legacy of Leadership and Achievements: 75 years!

Since its beginnings, the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club has thrived under the dedicated leadership of its presidents, leadership teams, and board members. Their tireless efforts, combined with the passion of our members, have propelled Phil-Mont to its current standing as one of the Delaware Valley's if not one of the country's premier radio clubs. You rock!

As your president for the coming year, I'm filled with both pride and a profound sense of responsibility. I know I cannot succeed without your unwavering support, and I have full faith in every member to uphold the high standards we've set for ourselves.

In the last year, we have come a long way and now have over 175 members. Incredible. The Drive Time Net, Field Day, DENn, PMRC Labs, Tinker Net and many more club activities make us who we are - a club of doers. This resounding success is a testament to the power of collaborative planning and hard work. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to all who contributed to this incredible achievement.

This year, as we celebrate our 75th anniversary, the excitement is palpable. Activities are on the calendar, momentum is building, and POTA-Mania awaits. We're even hearing requests for fox hunts and other exciting activities. Don't hesitate to share your ideas! This is Phil-Mont's stage, and together, we'll make it a banner year.

# The Prez Sez...

We will have plenty of opportunities in 2024 to do all the things. Although not an official club event, the year kicks off with "Winter Heat;" lots of us play and we have plenty of newbies to get in the game this year. I'm sure we'll put up big numbers.

AUCTION FEST '24 - Always a good time and a special part of the auction will be that there will be items from the AJ3DI estate. If you want a piece of Jedi Jim's vast collection of stuff, Auction Fest is your opportunity. Although, there is so much stuff, we may have to have a separate garage sale. All proceeds will go back to Jim's wife, Cindy, so bid generously; she needs and would greatly appreciate the help.

POTA-MANIA '24 - If you didn't get your POTA act together last year, or didn't make it to Okt-POTA Fest, we're doing a bunch of club POTA events this year (more information on page 10). Get help, try out an antenna, try your kit, try other's kits, or just come out and have fun.

I would like to thank outgoing board members K3RON (Ron) and N3QV (Eric) for their many years of service to the club. Eric will continue assisting with the club website and other important information services for the club. I want to welcome and thank K3NOP (Charlie) and KC3UDZ (Muggs) for stepping up and volunteering for the board, as well as KC3GJX (Jeff) for running for another term. They have already done a lot for the club, as you know, and are giving even more by joining the board of directors. The rest of the current board members and the leadership team are listed on the last page. I thank all of them for their continued support and efforts to help keep the club operating and moving in the right direction. Lots of "behind the scenes" time and effort goes into the monthly operations of the club and we all appreciate the time and dedication of the board and leadership team.

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 the meeting.

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**

# K3RON Silent Key

Fellow Phil-Monters,

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of K3RON, Ron Rubin on 12/18/23. Ron was a Phil-Mont board member for many years, always offered constructive ideas for the club and never missed a board meeting. Ron was also an active Rooster (Rooster #1259), always on 3.990 Mhz as early as 4am to greet the extra early Roosters. Ron was also an avid audiophile, very into vinyl and high quality audio.

We will miss his deep “broadcast radio” voice and his daily sports reports (especially the Phillies) on the Rooster net ([www.rooster-net.org](http://www.rooster-net.org)). Although Ron wasn’t often on the repeater, he was always “there” with Phil-Mont’s best interests at heart.

K3RON, Kilo-Three-Romeo-Oscar-November.

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No contact. Ron Rubin, K3RON, silent key. May you rest in peace. Seven-three. W3QV.





# "Ham I Am" - Member Spotlight

**Name:** Jacquelyn Loesch "Jax"

**QTH:** Fox Chase Philadelphia, Pa

**Call-** KC3UFO

**First licensed-** May 2022

**Years as a member of PMRC-** almost 2 years.

**Any positions or committees you've chaired?** Net Control, V.E., Field Day Band Captain (15m)

**Highlights of your shack –** FTM400, QTY980, IC7300

**Antennas-** Greg's(KC3SMW) Paint Pole from Field Day (thanks, I will return it one day), also one from Bill (W3AOK)

**Favorite band (radio not musical)-** 40 METERS

**Favorite operating mode-** FT8

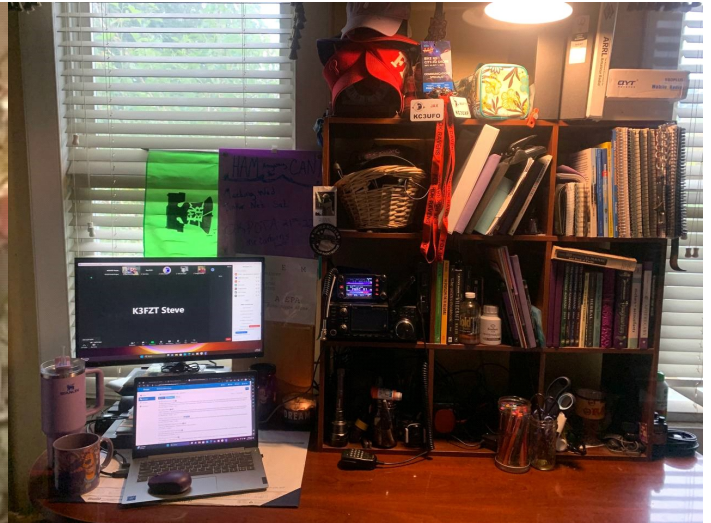
**How did you first get interested/started in amateur radio-**  
Survival/Camping/Communications

**Interesting facts about you –** I went to Penn State, and the Art institute. Married to Marty (KC3UXP), and have 3 children (Lily, Penny, Marty) who attend most meetings and events with us. We love camping and the outdoors. We have 3 Great Danes, including Hextall who comes to the outdoor meetings.

**What do you like most about PMRC-** The friendships, events, and learning opportunities.

**Anything else you want to share -** I have an Apothecary where I have organic items. I been involved with this for about 15 years and it's called "The Purple Dragon's Spice and Tea Apothecary".

# "Ham I Am" - Member Spotlight





# Upcoming Club Events

## **Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club Presents:** **PMRC POTA-MANIA 2024**

Join us for an exciting series of park radio events from April to October, showcasing the beauty of Fort Washington State Park and the joy of amateur radio!

### **Event Schedule: Mark your calendar!**

April 13: 8:00 AM onwards— Location: Fort Washington State Park Pavilion MHL-1

May 11: 8:00 AM onwards— Location: Fort Washington State Park Pavilion MHL-1

June 22-23: FIELD DAY - Location: Fort Washington State Park Campsites A—C

July 13: 8:00 AM onwards— Location: Fort Washington State Park Pavilion MHL-1

August: 17-18 International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend (Details to come)

September 14: 8:00 AM onwards—Location: Fort Washington State Park Pavilion MHL-1

October 19-20: OKTPOTA FEST—Location: Fort Washington State Park Campsite B

### **Activities:**

Picnic in the Park with Radio: Bring food, enjoy a picnic, and share radio enthusiasm with fellow hams. Test your equipment, see how others do POTA, try a new setup, HAVE FUN.

Park Activation: Activate the park individually or join forces with the club to showcase your radio skills and equipment.

Foxhunt: Challenge your foxhunting skills and have a blast locating a hidden transmitter within the park.

Anything ham radio goes, the limit is only your imagination.

### **Experience the Magic:**

POTA-MANIA 2024 is a celebration of amateur radio and the great outdoors. Whether you're an experienced operator or completely new to POTA or ham radio, all are welcome! Come and see what it's all about, get on the air, and most importantly, have fun!

Don't miss out on the chance to combine radio fun with a beautiful natural setting. Let's make each event memorable and a source of camaraderie among radio lovers.

**Note: Fort Washington is a carry-in / carry-out park. Please be sure to police your trash and take it with you.**

**PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC's**  
**27th ANNUAL HAM RADIO**

***“AUCTION-FEST”***

**Wednesday, JANUARY 10, 2023**

6:30 Business Meeting 7PM Auction Start  
(5:30PM Setup)

**Ben Wilson Senior Activity Center**

580 Delmont Avenue  
Warminster, PA 18974

Between the AUCTION and the DONATION area,  
(you never know what will be in either)  
there is a \*great\* opportunity for ELMERING!

Both long time and new hams will find things  
THAT THEY NEVER KNEW THEY NEEDED!!

**COME OUT AND HAVE SOME**  
**FUN!**





## PMRC AUCTION RULES AND ITEM LISTING FORM

- P.M.R.C. will retain 10% of the sale price up to a max. of \$30.00 per item.
- All sellers will pay a \$2.00 sellers fee to P.M.R.C.
- Seller must supply a thorough description of each piece offered for sale on a separate listing form. (you may make copies of this form)
- All sales are between the seller and buyer, not P.M.R.C.
- P.M.R.C. will be held harmless in all transactions between buyer and seller.

***THIS AUCTION IS INTENDED TO BE A FUN EVENT HOSTED BY P.M.R.C.***

***AND WILL STAY IN THAT SPIRIT!***

***By completing this form, YOU AGREE TO THE ABOVE RULES.***

***NOTE: LIST ONLY ONE ITEM PER FORM.  
FOR ADDITIONAL ITEMS PLEASE MAKE COPIES OF THIS FORM.***

Seller \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Buyer(for club use) \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Item \_\_\_\_\_ Model# \_\_\_\_\_

Start Bid at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum bid you will accept \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us about this item \_\_\_\_\_

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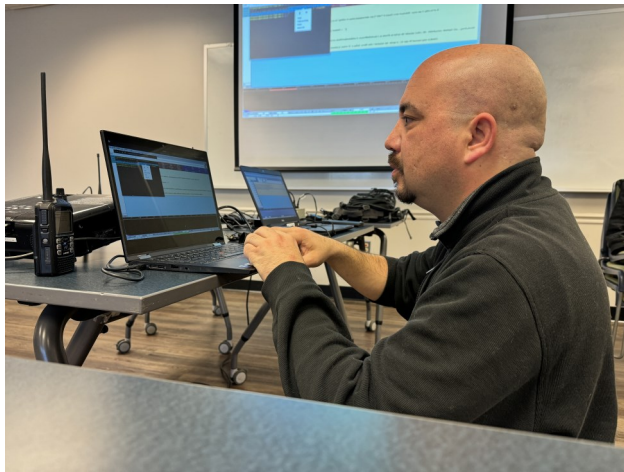
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# PMRC Labs 12/16/23

## Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club Presents: PMRC Labs: Let's Get Digital

This was a hands-on learning experience focusing on digital modes for both portable and base stations. Showcased were: SSTV, FLDigi, and Packet Winlink. These exciting modes can be easily accessed using a simple dongle called the DigiRig, along with the appropriate cables for your radio or HT.



Thank you everyone who attended the PMRC Radio Labs In December! Let's Get Digital got digital and we were able to play with the DigiRigs, HTs, and some had mobile radios setup and other soundcard PTT devices. It was a lot of fun. We started briefly with SSTV. Then we moved on to FLDigi and sending in different modes within FLDigi. Ron, NY3J demonstrated CW and how to transmit pictures with FLDigi. We learned some of the basics of FLDigi and how it knows how to change modes on the fly. We created macros for checking into the NBEMS nets, checking the weather, and a few other fun things. We finished off the Labs with some packet fun. Greg setup a temporary Packet Node and some checked into the node and played with the BBS.

First timers with DigiRigs and digital modes were able to get vital hands-on first time experience. More experienced attendees were able to test their equipment portable with an HT.

Special thanks to Ron, NY3J, Steve, K3FZT, and all those who assisted with Labs and helping our attendees. Everyone came with different levels of experience and all learned and had fun.

Keep a look out of our next PMRCRadio Labs in March. More to come!





# WINTERHEAT

## AMATEUR RADIO SIMPLEX EVENT

**IT'S TIME! CLICK TO REGISTER TODAY!**

### OPERATING FREQUENCIES

#### ANALOG

2M	70cm	OTHER
147.570 IL2-Charlie	446.700 ILUHF-Charlie	52.540 6M-Xray
147.525 IL2-Bravo	446.400 ILUHF-Bravo	223.400 1.25M-Xray
		927.100 33cm-XRay

#### DIGITAL

147.555 C4FM-V	446.600 C4FM-U	
145.790 DMR-V TG:99 TS:1 CC:1	446.0750 DMR-U TG:99 TS:1 CC:1	
145.670 D-STAR-V	446.225 D-STAR-U	

- All participants must be registered with the automated logging system for contacts to be credited
- All contacts must be made on the designated amateur radio frequencies.
- Contacts must be via FM voice and can be either analog or digital (DMR, Fusion, D-Star).
- All contacts must be made during the event period. (00:01 January 1, 2024 to 23:59 January 31, 2024)
- Stations may only make contact with each other once per day on each designated frequency.

DMR, C4FM and D-STAR Simplex Frequencies are simply recommendations. Since some areas have pre-designated digital voice simplex frequencies, they may use those frequencies as long as no external repeaters or other infrastructure is used. Simply

#### SCORING:

- **When making a QSO, only one station will enter the information into the system.** Usually the station calling CQ would enter the initial QSO information. Does not matter who submits the initial QSO info as long as the QSO does not get logged twice.
  - The other station will be responsible for confirming the QSO.
- Unconfirmed QSO will be credited with 1 contact point where a confirmed QSO will be awarded a value of 10 contact points.
- A QSO can be made with a station that has not signed up as a participant. However that QSO will only be award a single contact point. Should the non-participant sign up for the event after the QSO is made. The QSO made prior to their sign up will still be credited as a single contact point until the participant confirms the contact..

# Upcoming Club Events

Won't You Join Us...

## in *The DENn!*

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

**Tuesday Evenings @8:00pm**

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 Hamfests

01/13/2024 - Winterfest Harrisburg, PA

Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club

Website: <http://www.w3uu.org>

02/25/2024 - Wireless Association of South Hills ARC Hamfest

Sponsor: WASH ARC

Website: <http://n3sh.org>



# N3ZP's Contest Corner

Here are some of the contests coming up in January. This is the continuation of the big contest season. Lots of chances to get your Worked All States Award, try some new modes and pickup some new countries, also several featuring digital and CW:

## Jan. 6 - Jan. 7

*ARRL Kid's Day* - Jan. 6, 1800Z - 2359Z - SSB - 80, 40, 17, 15, 10 Meters, 2 Meter repeaters. Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>. Encourage kids to get interested in amateur radio by giving them on-the-air experience. Share your ham experiences with young people. Call "CQ Kid's Day". Jax, KC3UFO, this one is for you.

*ARRL RTTY Roundup* - 1800Z Jan.6 - 2400Z Jan. 7 - 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters - RTTY only - Worldwide. Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>. Work any RTTY station. Try out the FLDIGI skills you learned on the DENN. Eligible for Phil-Mont club competition.

## Jan. 13 - Jan. 14\*

*North American QSO Party CW* - 1800Z Jan. 13 - 0559Z Jan. 14 - CW - 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, Low power only, 100 Watts or less. Worldwide but focused on North American stations. Rules: <https://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>. Good opportunity to work states and Canadian provinces. Another chance to practice your CW.

\*The DARC German 10 Meter and the RSGB British 80 & 40 Meter contests' hours are not practical for US propagation.

## Jan. 20 - Jan. 21

*North American QSO Party SSB* - 1800Z Jan.20 - 0559 Jan. 21 - SSB - 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, Low power only, 100 Watts or less. Worldwide but focused on North American stations. Rules: <https://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>. Another chance for new states and Canadian provinces but this time SSB. The lower power limit will give non-contest stations a better chance.

*ARRL January VHF Contest* - 1900Z Jan. 20 - 0359 Jan. 21 - 50 MHz and up, any mode, no repeaters. Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>. Good chance to pickup new states or Grid Squares on 6 Meters and above. Stations with multi-band capability will work a station on 6 Meters and continue onto the upper bands. There will also be Rover stations who will be at different Grid Squares as the contest goes on.

*Feld Hell Sprint* - 2000Z Jan. 20 - 0559Z Jan. 21 - Feld Held mode - all bands except WARC Bands, Worldwide, 100 Watt power limit. Rules: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprints/Happy-Birthday-Rudolph-Sprint> A chance to try out another Fldigi mode practiced on the DENN.

## Jan. 26 - Jan.28

*CQ 160-Meter Contest CW* - 2200Z Jan.26 - 2200Z Jan.28 - CW 160 Meters - Worldwide -Rules: <http://www.cq160.com/rules.htm>. Probably the best time of year for 160 with least QRN, If you have the antenna this will be a great time for new states and countries.

*Winter Field Day* - 1900Z Jan. 27 - 1900Z Jan.28 - All bands, all modes - low power only, 100 Watts or less. Rules: <https://www.winterfieldday.com/>. Operate from home or in the field. Great for POTA ops. Phil-Mont will be setup at Lake Nockamixon State Park, also a POTA site. Check the Groups.io for details when finalized.

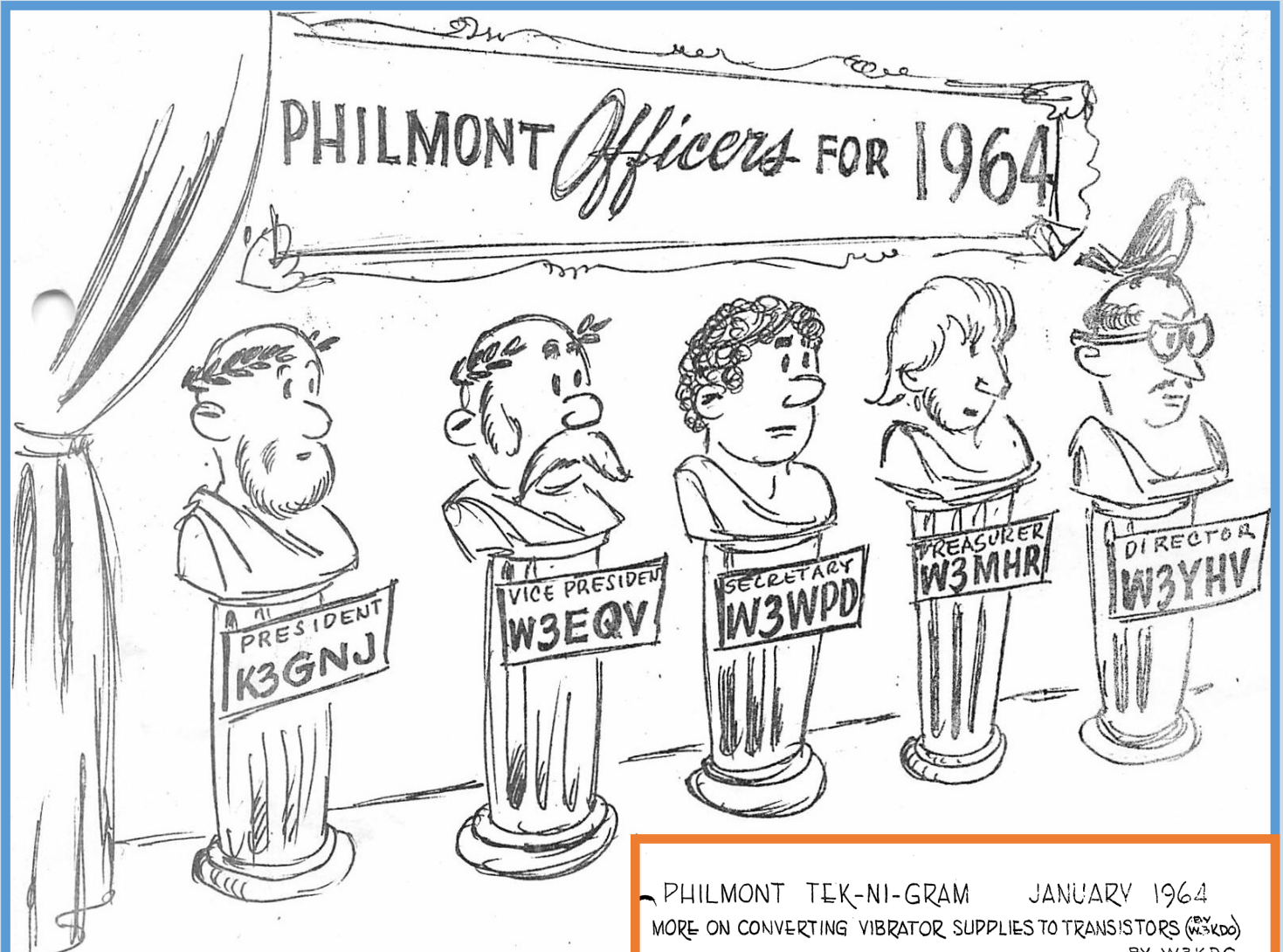
Lots of good contest activity while hibernating for Winter.

73, Phil N3ZP

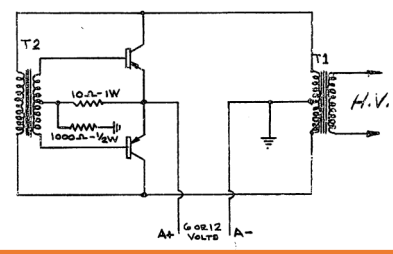
**Contact Phil N3ZP on the [groups.io](https://groups.io) for contesting and contest logging information. Use the hashtag #contest**

# From the PMRC Archive...

Here are some highlights from this month in Blurb history, January 1964...



PHILMONT TEK-NI-GRAM JANUARY 1964  
 MORE ON CONVERTING VIBRATOR SUPPLIES TO TRANSISTORS (BY W3KDC)  
 BY W3KDC



For Sale: Tri-State Electronics, TRI-X 500 transmitter \$495.  
 Bands 80, 40, 15 and 10 with heterodyne VFO  
 and built-in power supply All xtals included.  
 SSB 500 watts PEP, CW 500 watts input, AM 250  
 watts input. A real power house, used very  
 little and in mint condition.

Ed Braddock, W2BAY

# 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? Maybe you have some goodies for sale?

***Click the big blue envelope***

## ***PMRC Officers for 2024***

### **Officers**

**President:** AA3RC Rich

**V. President:** KC3SMW Greg

**Treasurer:** Jim NS3K

**Secretary:** Dave K3DFG

### **Board of Directors**

KC3GJX Jeff (25)

KC3SSG Dil (24)

K3NOP Charlie (25)

N3PEG Peg (24)

KC3UDZ Muggs (25)

N3ZP Phil (24)

W3AOK Bill (A)

## **Blurb Editors:**

**Daniel Wagaman - W4GMN, Editor Emeritus**

**Steve Davidson—K3FZT**

**Jim McCusker—K3YO**

**Richard Roth—AA3RC**



***Club Email List***

*The Blurb*