



The Blurb



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

Volume 75 Number 7

www.phil-mont.org

This issue is dedicated to Dan Wagaman W4GMN, SK



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.

New Net ?

Have an interest or idea for a net?

Get it started!

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)

July
Sunday Net Control Schedule

7/7/2024 N3QV

7/14/2024 W3AFV

7/21/2024 KB3SJS

7/28/2024 W3UP

Club Business

NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

Wednesday, September 11th
IN PERSON *ONLY*

Giant Supermarket 315 York Rd.
Willow Grove, PA 19090

7PM Presentation - 6:30PM Start -
5:30PM Yack & Snack)

No Meeting

July/August

This Month's Birthdays

N3MUG	Wayne Lewis	7/9
KA3TTT	Austin Seraphin	7/14
KC3UKF	Drew Birden	7/14
W3JNF	Jim Foster	7/22
WU3I	Stephen Hoch	7/31

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

New Club Members

Joseph "Joe" Caltabiano AA3JC, Extra

Richard "Rich" Parker, KC3WNX, Technician

Dorian Murray, W3KAZ, General

Galen Fitzpatrick, KC3ZEN, Technician



welcomes you!

Phil-Mont Membership Statistics

July 2024

Member Types Statistics: (Active Members)

REGULAR Membership	173
Honorary	3
Additional Family Member (EACH	8
Student Membership	2
Total	186

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](#) and visit 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,

The June Phil-Mont triple play is in the books! The general meeting with a presentation on building a 49:1 balun, followed by a PMRC Labs with the physical building of the balun (all the 20+ builds were successful, thanks Matt N3VAN and Greg KC3SMW), followed by an epic, although !!!hot!!! Field Day. It doesn't get much better than that!

Field Day was great fun. Many thanks to Charlie K3NOP our Field Day Captain for keeping us organized. Thanks to all those who stayed, showed up, helped, operated and contributed. We're still tallying the results, but it is looking like 500-plus QSOs were logged. In addition we had a visit from our ARRL Atlantic Division Director, Bob Famiglio. Jeff, KC3GJX set up an incredible GOTA station with the WW-II era RTTY machine fully operational, so cool. Special thanks to the other band captains, John KB3SJS 20M, Jax KC3UFO 15m (thanks for the awesome shirts too!), Carmen KE3QB 80M, Greg WA3GM 40M CW, Greg KC3SMW Denn, Digital, 10M and whatever else he had going on there. Yours truly ran the 40M SSB band, but we wouldn't have gotten to 242 contacts without the many operators and loggers who jumped into the chair over the weekend. We even got the Park Ranger on the air! Thanks to all.

In addition, we had VE sessions open all weekend. Dorian, W3KAZ upgraded to General and Ted, K3NOP's friend passed the Technician test. Awesome.

Time to take a breather, but not for too long.....because the next POTA-Mania is scheduled for July 13th. So get out those antennas you built in June and try them out.

On a more somber note, we are all incredibly sad to have lost Mike, KB1JEY and Dan, W4GMN. They were both significant contributors to the ham radio hobby and community in so many ways. Dan was a great friend to many of us and I will miss his kindness and his way with words. The *Blurb* wouldn't be what it is without Dan's efforts to create the layout and format you're reading today. Dan is the *Blurb* Editor Emeritus for all time. Their premature exit from this world creates a void that will be felt for some time. Here is the website setup by Lisa his wife in Dan's honor: <https://www.danielwagamanmemorial.com/>

Save the date!!

To celebrate our 75th Anniversary, we are going to have a banquet in place of our November General Meeting. November 9th, 2024 at the Veterans Home Association of Whitemarsh Valley 493 S. Bethlehem Pike Fort Washington, PA More details to follow but looking forward to an epic celebration of our club.

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 in September.

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.

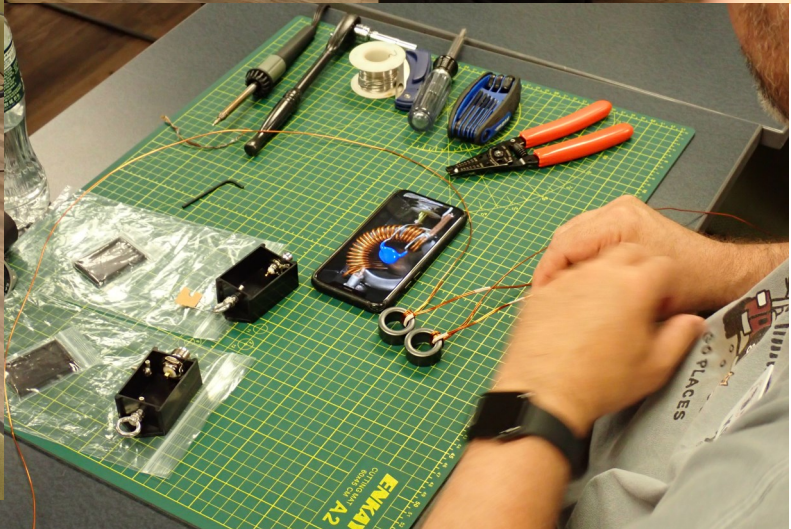
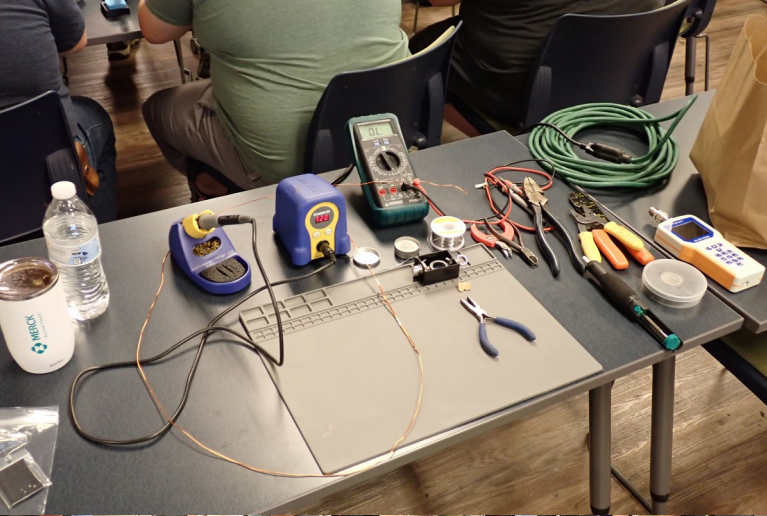
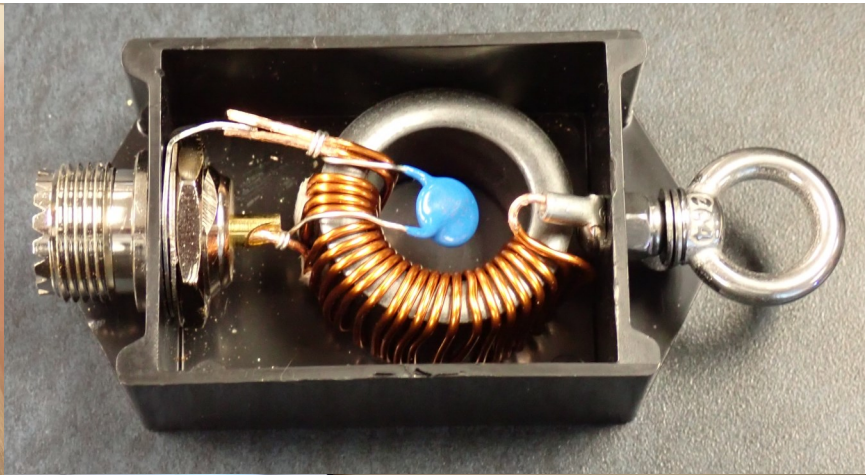
FAIL = First Attempt In Learning



PMRC LABS June '24

June Triple Play Part 2

What a great PMRC Labs with over 20 attendees and antenna builds. Looking forward to seeing how those antennas work at the next POTA-Mania even scheduled for July 13th.



PMRC FIELD DAY '24

June Triple Play Part 3

What a fantastic field day. It's all about the people having fun setting up and playing radio!

See all the pictures here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/mvE2zZnk2FcQoVva9>



PMRC Field Day '24



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!

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.

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—The DENn is taking a short summer hiatus. Watch the groups.io for the next scheduled DENn

Upcoming Hamfests

READING RADIO CLUB HAMFEST

Sat., August 3, 2024 Rain or Shine
Heritage Park, Sinking Spring, PA 19608
(Turn at Park Ave. across from the Sunoco station.)

Hamfest opens at 8:00 a.m. Vendors/Sellers welcome at 7:00 a.m.

Admission \$ 5.00 per adult -- \$ 8.00 per tailgater
No admission fee for those taking license exams, or Radio Amateurs under 18 yrs. of age, unlicensed spouses, or children under 18 yrs. of age.

Door prizes awarded at intervals.

FCC/ARRL license exams start at 8:30 AM inside the Freight Station. Cost is \$15.00 with a check made payable to "Reading Radio Club". Please bring at least one form of ID. A copy of your Amateur Radio License or CSCE is sufficient. You must provide an email address and FRN number. Please pre-register with Stu Higgins, W2SLH at 484-339-3456 or exam@w2slh.com

Tailgating: \$8.00 per 4' X 8' space at your car. Bring your own table.
(Includes 1 admission.)

Limited test bench provided in the freight station with 110 VAC, 12 VDC power supply, and dummy load.

Hot breakfast and lunch items,
plus coffee, sodas, snacks & bottled water for sale.

Talk-in: RRC Repeater 146.91/.31 (CTCSS 131.8)

GPS Use: 992 Clematis St., Sinking Spring, PA 19608. From Reading, go west on Rt. 422 past the MacDonald's at Rt. 724. After about one mile, go left onto Park Ave. (just past the Sunoco station on the right). Travel on Park Ave. 0.3 miles to a dead end, then take a left onto Clematis St. Go 0.2 miles to the entrance of Heritage Park.

Watch for HAMFEST signs.

ARRL - sanctioned hamfest. Free parking available.

Reading Radio Club, Inc. email: w3bn.rrc@gmail.com

Upcoming Hamfests

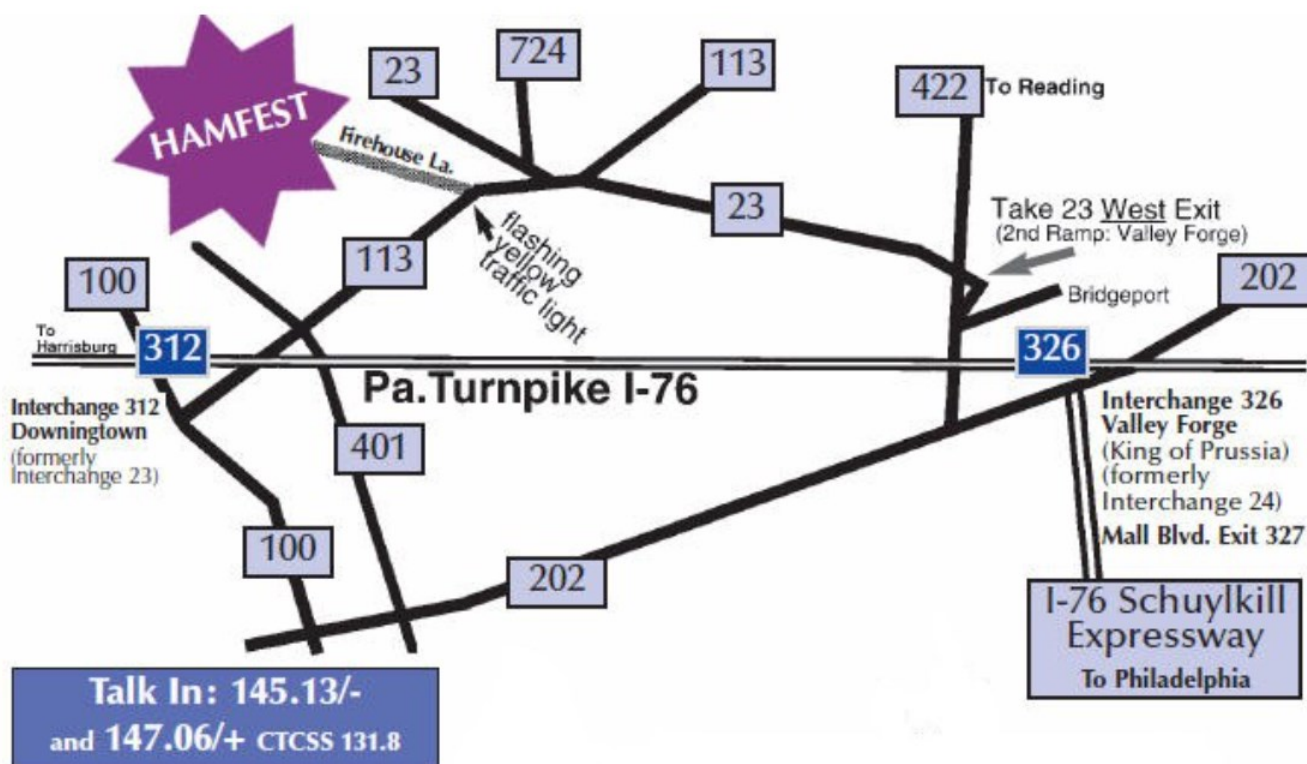
The **2024 MARC Hamfest** is on **Sunday August 11th** at the Kimberton Fire Company grounds, Route 113 (742 Pike Springs Road) (GPS: 40.12748, -75.56726) west of the intersection with Route 23 in Kimberton, PA.

The map shows that Kimberton is northwest of King of Prussia and just west of Phoenixville, PA. Talk-in is available on the MARC linked repeater systems with coverage to the north and west and near Kimberton provided by 145.13 MHz PL 131.8 repeater in Paoli PA and to the south and east by 147.06 MHz PL 131.8 repeater in Newtown Square PA.

Doors open for sellers not before 0700 and for buyers at 0800. Doors close at 1200. Admission is \$10 and entitles you to a door prize ticket. Sellers have an outdoor tailgate space for \$8 (one car width, head-in parking) not including admission. An indoor table is available for \$10 each for 1 to 4 tables or \$8 each for 5 or more tables not including admission. Reservations for indoor tables are required by emailing hamfest@marc-radio.org. The Hamfest flyer is [here](#).

Food and beverage sales are provided by authorized vendors only. Unlicensed children and spouse with a licensed Ham admission are free.

MARC sponsors a VE Test Session at the Hamfest at 1000, arrive by 0945 in the Pavilion. See MARC [ARRL VE Test Session](#) for additional information. QSL card checking for DXCC including 160 meters, Worked All States, VUCC and Worked All Continents will be provided by Bill N3WD.



N3ZP's Contest Corner

July 1 - July 8

Annual 1300 Colonies Special Event- 1300Z July 1 - 0400Z July 8. All HF Bands (excluding 60 Meters) plus 6 and 2 Meters, All Modes. Rules:<http://13colonies.us>. Work all 13 Colonies for a Clean Sweep plus 2 bonus stations in the UK and France and WM3PEN in our own area, Not a contest but a fun event to collect special QSL Cards and a certificate. Some club members and other local hams may be participating as operators for WM3PEN.

July 6 - Jul. 7

PODXS 070 Club Firecracker 40 Meter Sprint - 2000Z July 6 - 2000Z July 7, operate in 6 hour blocks. Worldwide. 40 Meters only, PSK31 mode. Rules:<http://www.podxs070.com/o7o-club-sponsored-contests/40m-firecracker-sprint>. Use your FLDIGI skills on PSK31 in a short contest.

Original QRP Contest - 1500Z July 6 - 1500Z July 7. Worldwide. 80, 40 and 20 Meters, CW, SSB. Rules:<http://www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/oqrpr.html>. Contest goal is to promote low power, 5 Watts or less but up to 20 Watts is allowed. You can run your 100 Watt rig dialed down but the event is geared toward the traditional low power rigs. Your low power POTA rigs would be ideal.

July 13 - July 14

IARU HF World Championship - 1200Z July 13 - 1200Z July 14. Worldwide. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, CW, SSB. Rules:<http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship>. An event geared toward self-training in improving radio communication skills by connecting with amateurs worldwide, especially IARU member society stations. Sound like a lot but just make contacts by exchanging signal report and IARU zone. We are in zone 8.

July 20 - July 21

YOTA Contest - 1000Z to 2359Z July 20. Maximum 6 hours operating. Worldwide. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, CW, SSB. Rules:<https://www.ham-yota.com/contest/>. An event geared to getting youngsters under 25 on the air. Experienced operators are encouraged to assist getting YOTA ops on the air and work YOTA stations. Non-youngsters count but only for one point. Get those kids on the air!

Maidenhead Mayhem Contest - 0000Z July 20 - 2359Z July 28. Worldwide. 160, 80, 49, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW, SSB, Digital (including FT4/FT8). Rules:<https://w9et.com/rules.html>. The goal is to contact amateurs in as many Maidenhead Grid Fields as possible, This is an extended event with a lot of rules but much is built into the logger program. Participation has a lot of options, Too much for me to explain in a couple sentences, so review the rules page.

July 27 - July 28

Alabama QSO Party - 1500Z July 27 - 0300Z July 28. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, CW, Phone. Rules:<http://alabamacontestgroup.org/aqp/>. Works Alabama stations in as many counties as possible, Another state toads to your Worked All States.

RSGB IOTA Contest - 1200Z July 27 - 1200Z July 28. Worldwide. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, CW, SSB. Rules:<https://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2024/riota.shtml>. "World Stations" work "Islands on the Air" stations, not unlike hunting POTA stations.

As always, you can reach out to me for assistance in participating in a contest and logging.

Phil N3ZP

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

Ham I Am

Hello and a Ham I Am

My name is Carmen DeCicco KE3QB from Philadelphia, PA.

My story begins many years ago living with my mom and dad in their house using my very first Cobra Base Station CB radio. The wall mounted vertical Antenna moving back and forth on the windy nights when I would hear a DX station coming in. "Breaker on this channel, this is KAWO 5501 calling Dx." That was my first radio license. Sometimes they would answer, and that contact was my first love with talking with people from all over the world.

One Christmas season on a trip to Neshaminy mall, there was a display setup by the Penn wireless Amateur Radio Club. Their information led me to studying the novice license manual and many nights of learning 5 wpm morse code. Well, I took my first test and earned my first real Amateur Radio License...KA3NXC in 1986. It was one of my proudest achievements so far. Already working as a Bus Driver for Septa and coming home late at night sometimes, I would go down to my basement and warm up one of my first radio stations, a pair of Drake TRC4 twins. My Mosley Beam Antenna on my Row home roof top turning all directions as I sat at my small shack in the corner of my basement doing laundry and calling "CQ CQ 80 METERS KA3NXC STANDING BY." I was so into being a Ham, I didn't stop there.

Along came Philmont Mobile Radio club and its station at the Franklin Institute. I found my new home. I couldn't stop at Novice so I studied and worked my way up to 10 wpm then 13 and earned N3EPR as a General Class Licensee. I was on a roll; the next stop was Advanced and I earned KE3QB. While I was still excited about my new callsign. I needed to reach the top, Extra class. So on one of the last nights of VE testing at the Franklin Institute and morse code being eliminated, I was one of the proud few earning my extra class license by passing the theory test and copied enough morse code at 20 wpm to earn the final prize. KE3QB Extra Class license privileges. As a member for over 20 years plus with PMRC, my passion led me to be Field Day Chairman for a short while and volunteering for some public service events such as the MS150 which I have volunteered for 20 plus years all thanks to being a licensed Amateur Radio Operator.



National Mass Casualty Exercise

National Mass Casualty Exercise (NMCE) by Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) and the American Red Cross (ARC).

By Steve Davidson, K3FZT

Overview

Southeastern Pennsylvania (SEPA) Red Cross worked with PEMA and ARES in supporting the 2024 National Mass Casualty Exercise. Exercise Headquarters was at Shippensburg PA. The exercise began with a dry run on May 11 which afforded the volunteer participants in the Emcomm portion of the activity an opportunity to evaluate equipment, setup and operational possibilities.. The exercise itself took place on May 22 and for those eager to participate, but unable to do so on May 22, there was an ancillary Winlink exercise on May 25.

On May 22 exercise shelters were opened across the state; in SEPA the shelter was at the Norristown State Hospital where emergency communications support was delivered by Philmonters Phil Milazzo, KC6OEI and Steve Davidson, K3FZT. The SEPA supporting Red Cross Emcomm Station (RCES) also located in the Philadelphia ARES/SEPA-ARC communications trailer was staffed by Philmonters Sam Rausch, KC3VUR and David Ellis, KA3NUV. Overall direction was by the Disaster Services Technology Regional Lead and Philmonter Cliff Hotchkiss, KC3PGT.

Shelter Emcomm volunteers–Philmontrs–working directly with SEPA-ARC shelter volunteers compiled and sent Red Cross Staff Request forms, Red Cross Shelter Status Reports and other messages as directed to the Philmonters staffing the SEPA-RCES who forwarded these to Headquarters and PEMA and Pennsylvania ARC participating stations. The Philmonters at the SEPA-RCES station also made HF Phone contact with PEMA ACS East and relayed transmissions from ARES District Coordinator Dick Stewart, K3ITH and two other RCES stations. The Philmonters at the shelter meanwhile responded to unscripted requests from SEPA-ARC shelter leadership.

SEPA Communications Trailer

Funds for the build-out of the SEPA-ARC emergency communications (EmComm) trailer came entirely from local hams, many of whom are Philmonters. The equipment was then donated to the ARC after construction by Philmonters Dave Gilbert, K3DFG and Roger Naylor, W3RSN on their own time, installing features like insulation and counter workspace with seating for two amateur operators.

The trailer design was developed by a team of Philadelphia ARES members many of whom are Philmonters.. The trailer as built out in this first stage contains: two all-band Icom 7100 transceivers with amateur and Red-Cross licensed bands, two antennas, cabling, a high capacity battery and other support equipment. It also carries ten hand-held radios appropriate for both blue sky and disaster response use. Most of the time, the EmComm trailer will reside at the Norristown warehouse. When the trailer needs to be relocated, it can be hitched to a SEPA-ARC Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV), Mass Response Vehicle (MRV) or other type of Red Cross truck.

Results and Conclusions by Cliff Hotchkiss, KC3PGT, SEPA Emcomm Regional Lead

Overall, we had a very smooth and successful exercise in SEPA. In hindsight I would have added an extra person or two to the operation. The shelter team in particular needed a third member.

On HF we were able to reach KB3NIA. We also heard KC3WQI, KC3WQG, and K3ITH and relayed those stations which were not able to contact headquarters on their own.

We were able to pass all forms over VHF to the AA3E-10 gateway. Thanks to Montgomery County ARES/RACES for the use of that facility.

We had a very enthusiastic Shelter Manager, Ed Robold, who wanted to send additional information over EmComm channels. Included in his requests were an ambulance request which was one of his injects as well as confirmation of that action to the Regional Shelter Manager via the EmComm team in Shippensburg.

It was a good first test of our new EmComm trailer and helped identify both procedural and material needs.

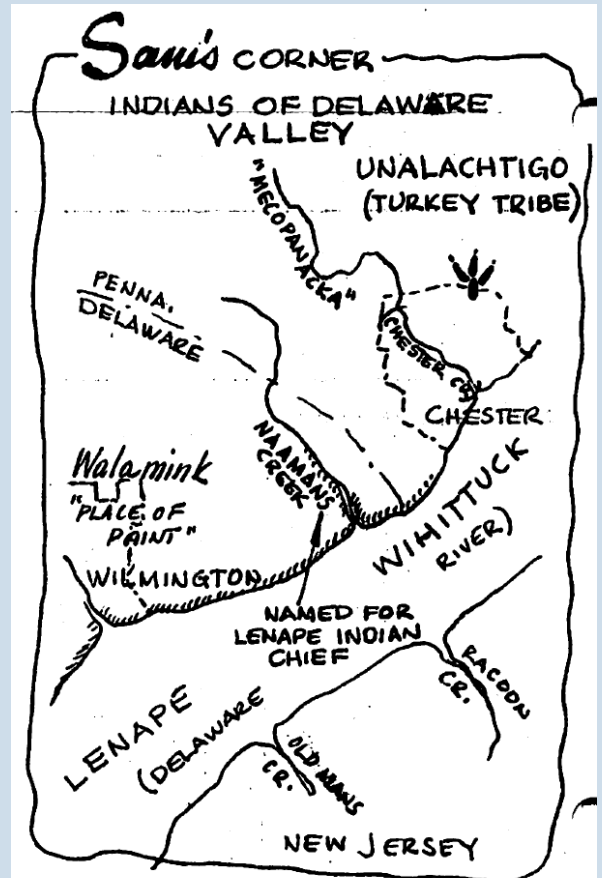
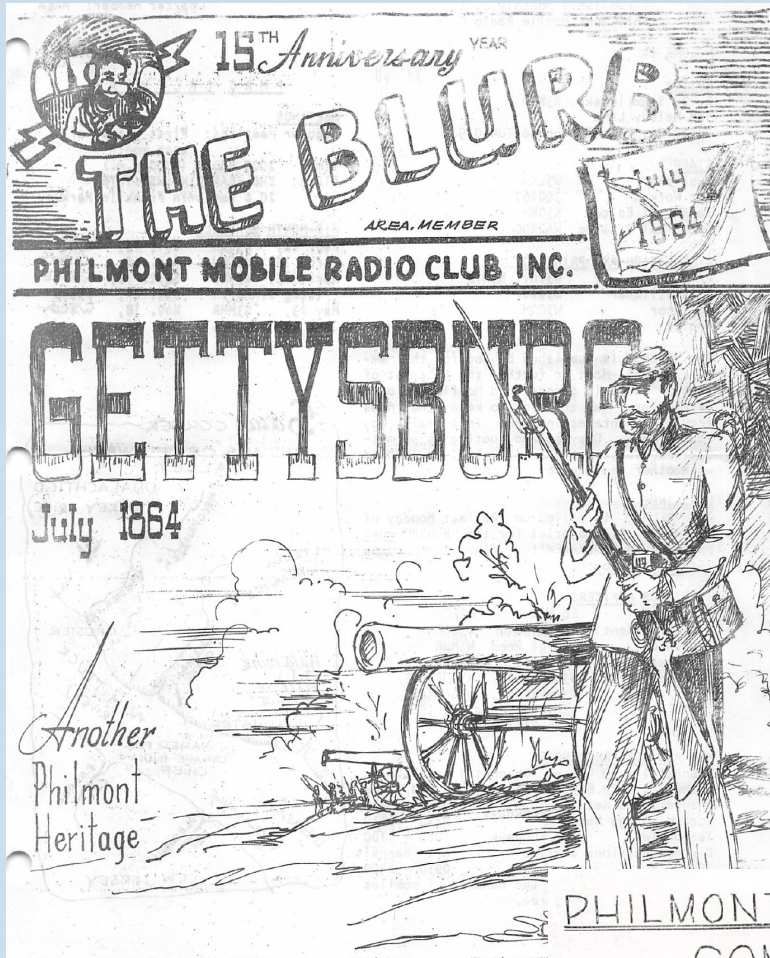
Photo Links:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/SDRCoYZ7aFWrhQBa9>

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/eoZ9ae6kQHJKNWuw5>

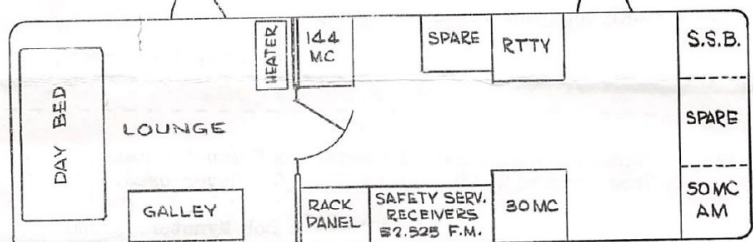
From the PMRC Archive...

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



PHILMONT TEK-NI-GRAM JULY 1964 COMMUNICATIONS TRAILER

The sketch below shows the general layout of the Philmont Communications Trailer. Operating positions are available for S.S.B. (S.B.E. equipment), 10 meters (Elmac AF 67, PMR 6), 50 mc. AM. (equipment not yet acquired), 52.525 F.M. (R.C.A. CMV-2), 144 mc. (Gonset Communicator III). Also available in the vehicle is equipment for Aircraft Unicom (Narco), safety service receivers (39.18, 39.82, 42.92, 45.46 mc.), public address system, B.C. receiver, tape recording facilities, Model 15 teletype, local and common battery telephone lines.



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, SK
Editor Emeritus**

Richard Roth—AA3RC



[Club Email List](#)

The Blurb