The Blurb

Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

Public Service Since 1949

Volume 76 Number 7

www.phil-mont.org

Phil-Mont's Phield Day 2025!

RADIO CONNECTS FD25

The Eastern Pennsylvania Section (EPA)

Of the

American Radio Relay League

Is pleased to recognize

Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

For its significant contribution in the success of Field Day 2025

Participation in this important communications event is evidence

Of the club's dedication in promoting and advancing the efficacy

Of the Amateur Radio Service.

R. G. Wilson

ARRL Field Day

June 28-29, 2025

Robert G. Wilson, W3BIG

ARRL Section Manager, EPA

ARRL EPA

The Prez Sez…

Fellow Phil-Monters,

Phil-Mont's "Phield Day" — A Resounding Success! What an epic Field Day it was for the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club! We logged over 60 attendees and visitors who joined in the radio fun, operating five active stations. Operators had a blast trying their hand at making contacts across a variety of bands, including GOTA, HF/2M Digital, 40m CW, and 40m, 20m, 15m, and 80m SSB. The 40m SSB station was a powerhouse, with no fewer than nine different operators netting over 220 contacts! A huge shout-out for incredible effort and dedication goes to **Jack, WA3BXH**, and **Peg, N3PEG**. They kicked off operations on Saturday and kept the station going strong right up to the final minutes on Sunday, earning them the award for most contacts and seat time at 40m. They are master field day operators and shared their knowledge and experience with “newbies” who got in the chairs.

Special Thanks—Our deepest gratitude goes to **Charlie, K3NOP**, who once again served as our phenomenal Field Day Captain. His meticulous efforts ensured everything ran smoothly, and he expertly guided us through tasks to maximize our multipliers and extra points. All the band captains also did an outstanding job! Another special thank you is extended to **Mike, KC3UKC**, for his tireless assistance with antenna installations — we think the OCF dipole at the 40m station might have been the highest! Mike also stayed until the very end to help with load-out and closing down the campground.

It was fantastic to connect with some of our newest members, several newly licensed hams, and **Jace, KE0MXN**, a recent transplant to the area who found us and jumped right into operating multiple stations. All in all, it was a truly wonderful event, and even the weather cooperated, although hot, but not nearly as intense as last year.

But Wait, There's More Radio Fun! If you missed out on playing radio in the park during Field Day, you have another chance! POTA (Parks on the Air) fun at Fort Washington continues on July 19th. We hope to see you there.

And even more! Attention Phil-Mont Net Control Operators: The annual PMRC NCO Dinner and Summit will take place on Monday August 11th at 6pm at Andy’s Diner in Conshohocken. Even if you are a fill-in net control operator, you are welcome to join the event.

The Prez Sez…

We're always looking for submissions to The Blurb, so if you have an idea for an article, write it up and send it in. Thanks to Jim, K3YO for his article on his drain spout antenna.

We're also looking for members to be featured in the semi-regular Ham I Am member spotlight feature. There's over 200 of us, so there shouldn't be a shortage of members to be featured. We want to learn about you and your gear. Contact Dave, K3DFG to get on the list, it's easy!

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 a club event soon.

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 = **F**irst **A**ttempt **I**n **L**earning

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.

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.

Philadelphia ARES

Sundays 8 PM ET on our VHF Repeater, Allstar or Echolink

OMIK Net Sat. 11am

KC3BVL VHF and UP Nets

All nets upper sideband but CW ok

Fridays are to get your VHF station running smoothly and find out who you can work.

7:30pm 144.160 8pm 50.160
8:30pm 222.150 9pm 432.160

Microwave Wednesdays are to get your microwave station up and running smoothly.

7:30pm 903.100 8pm 1296.100
8:30pm 2304.100 9pm 5760.100

CLUB REPEATERS

VHF: 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)

REMOTE VHF INPUTS:

Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)-**Currently off-air**

Delaware County West and South PL 100.0 (147.030)

UHF: 444.80 MHz Yaesu System Fusion WiresX

ECHOLINK W3QV-R &

ALLSTAR 47970

Phil-Mont Simplex Frequency 147.510mHz PL91.5 TSQL

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

7/6/2025 N3QV

7/13/2025 KE3QB

7/20/2025 KB3SJS

7/27/2025 W3UP

Club Business

NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:
Wednesday, September 10th

Giant Supermarket 315 York Rd.
Willow Grove, PA 19090

5:30PM Yack & Snack
6:30PM Meeting Starts
7PM Presentation

No Meetings July and August—See you in September

This Month's Birthdays

N3MUG Wayne Lewis 9-Jul

KA3TTT Austin Seraphin 14-Jul

KC3UKF Drew Birden 14-Jul

W3JNF Jim Foster 22-Jul

WU3I Stephen Hoch 31-Jul

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

New Club Members

William J Klenk, Technician. KD3AIP

Anthony C Canike, KA3ZPH, General

PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB

welcomes you!

Phil-Mont Membership Statistics

July 2025

Member Types Statistics: (Active Members)

REGULAR Membership	190
Honorary	3
Board Member	7
Officer	4
Total	**204**

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

Ham Radio Challenge

Here's a fun checklist you July have seen in the group messages, but here it is again.
GO PLAY RADIO. Let's see who can check all the boxes!

Band Worked	Mode Worked	Activity (or mode of op)
☐ - 2,200 M (135 kHz)	☐ - SSB	☐ - Repeater QSO (2 M and up)
☐ - 630 M (472 kHz)	☐ - CW	☐ - Repeater QSO (10 or 6 M)
☐ - 160 M (1.8 MHz)	☐ - AM	☐ - Simplex FM QSO (VHF/UHF)
☐ - 80/75 M (3.5/3.8 MHz)	☐ - FM	☐ - SSB QSO (VHF/UHF)
☐ - 60 M (5.3 MHz)	☐ - PSK (31, 63)	☐ - CW Contact
☐ - 40 M (7 MHz)	☐ - FT4	☐ - Contest Contact
☐ - 30 M (10.1 MHz)	☐ - FT8	☐ - Satellite and/or EME Contact
☐ - 20 M (14 MHz)	☐ - Other WSJT- X Modes (FSK441, JT6M, JT65, etc.)	☐ - Fox Hunt (ARDF)
☐ - 17 M (18 MHz)	☐ - JS8call	☐ - WinLink Contact
☐ - 15 M (21 MHz)	☐ - Packet (AX25)/APRS	☐ - EchoLink Contact
☐ - 12 M (24.9 MHz)	☐ - SSTV or Fast Scan ATV	☐ - WAS (work all 50 states)
☐ - 10 M (28 MHz)	☐ - Digital FM- DMR, D-Star, Fusion, etc.) or Hotspots	☐ - Work 50 countries
☐ - 6 M (50 MHz)		☐ - Work 100 countries
☐ - 2 M (144 MHz)	☐ - Pactor, Clover, Olivia, Throb, DominoEX, MT63, Thor, AMTOR, etc.	☐ - WAC- Work All Continents
☐ - 1.25 M (222 MHz)		☐ - POTA (Parks On The Air) or SOTA (Summits On The Air) Chaser Contact
☐ - 75 cm (440 MHz)	☐ - FAX or Hellschreiber	
☐ - 33 cm (902 MHz)	**Club**	☐ - POTA or SOTA Activation
☐ - Higher Microwave Bands	☐ - Attend an ARC meeting	☐ - POTA Activator
Build or Install	☐ - Present at ARC meeting	☐ - Work your State QSO party
☐ - New VHF/UHF Antenna	☐ - Head a committee	**Build/Test/Repair**
☐ - New HF Antenna	☐ - Attend a Hamfest	☐ - Electronics Kit or Homebrew
☐ - New Mobile Radio	☐ - Teach a Licensing Class or be a VE	☐ - Use an Antenna Analyzer or nano-VNA to measure
☐ - New Mobile Antenna	☐ - Mentor a new ham	☐ - Fix non-working Radio
☐ - Computer/Radio Interface	☐ - Write a newsletter article	☐ - Arduino, Rasp Pi microprocessor project or Program
☐ - New Operating Desk	☐ - Volunteer for Public Serv	

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 to the groups.io group, July's topics TBD.**

13 Colonies July 1st to 7th

By Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO

It's here, one of the most popular summer operating events kicks off – The 13 Colonies Special Event. Now in its 17th year the event has grown from Special Event Stations making approximately 12,000 contacts to last year making 292,496 contacts around the world. The Event runs from July 1 9:00 AM - July 7 Midnight Eastern (July 1 – 1300 UTC – July 8 – 0400 UTC).

This year Event organizers are recognizing the 13 Colonies Special Event founder Ken Villone, KU2US, who is passing the torch on to Tony Jones, N4ATJ. For the past 16 years Villone has lead the event by working with state and bonus station coordinators. Then after the event he would print out individual certificates for thousands of people who made contact with the special event stations.

The Special Event consists of one station operating in each of the 13 Colonies (K2A – K2M) and three bonus stations (WM3PEN – Philadelphia, GB13COL – England and TM13COL – France), each representing their city, state, or countries role in America's Colonial period. Besides WM3PEN in Philadelphia, K2M will be on the air representing the rest of Pennsylvania.

Ham Radio operators and SWLs can participate in the event. Complete information about the call for each colony station and the bonus stations can be found on the event website 13colonies.us and they can follow us on Facebook – 13 Colonies Special Event Community. Stations need only make one contact with one of the participating stations or they can go for a Clean Sweep and work all 13 Colony stations and the 3 bonus stations. Each station offers a special QSL card for the event as well as a different certificate each year. Operators can keep an eye out for the special event stations can keep an eye out for them by watching many of the dx spotting networks such as DXSummit.fi.

Upcoming Club Events

MARK YOUR 2025 CALENDARS

Here we go, playing radio in 2025!

- July 19th—POTA-Mania
- August 16-17—International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend
- September 13th—PMRC Radio Labs
- September 20th—POTA-Mania
- October 10-11-12—OKT-POTA-Fest

What an amazing lineup. Get ready for some serious fun.

Details to follow.

Phield Day Report

Philmonters! Field day 2025 is in the books. We had quite a few visitors, and a few firsts (at least as of my time as Field Day Captain! Pictures here: https://photos.app.goo.gl/sm24AefWPZ8CL9mv5

This year we operated as a class 5A instead of our usual class 6A, this lowered the number of transmitters we could operate simultaneously, but it allows us to be a bit more competitive with scoring. We completed quite a few of the goals for extra points, such as:

- 100% Emergency Power
- Public Location
- Public Information Table (GOTA)
- A formal message to our ARRL SEC
- W1AW Field Day Message (copied over RTTY by a real teletype - thanks Jeff KC3GJX)
- 10x Formal Messages Handled
- Site visit by an invited served agency official (Thank you Cliff!)
- GOTA
- Safety Officer

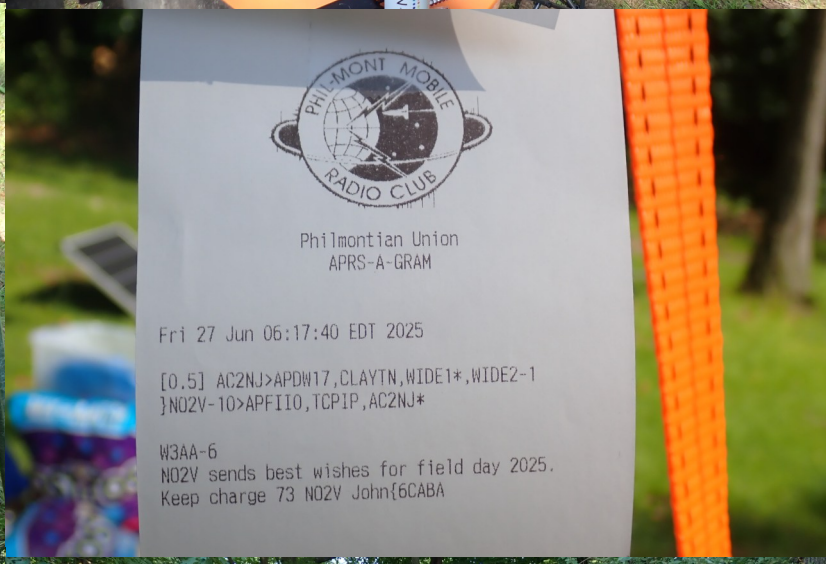
We are still tallying the total contacts for the event, but this year we managed a few contacts on both the 6 and 160 meter bands, which grants us some multipliers, plus quite a few contacts on 80 meters.

Thank you to everyone who visited the site this year, and I will update the club with results once I have them compiled. We'll see you all next January for Winter Field Day!

Phield Day Report

Phield Day Report

Phield Day Report



Phield Day Report

Sparks Mics & Wires

Tinker's Corner: Exploring the IF Statement with a Potentiometer and LEDs

In this edition of Tinker's Corner, we will introduce the **IF statement**, a fundamental programming concept, by using a **potentiometer (pot) to control three LEDs**. This builds on our previous discussions about **potentiometer mapping (map function)** and prepares us for more complex decision-making in Arduino projects.

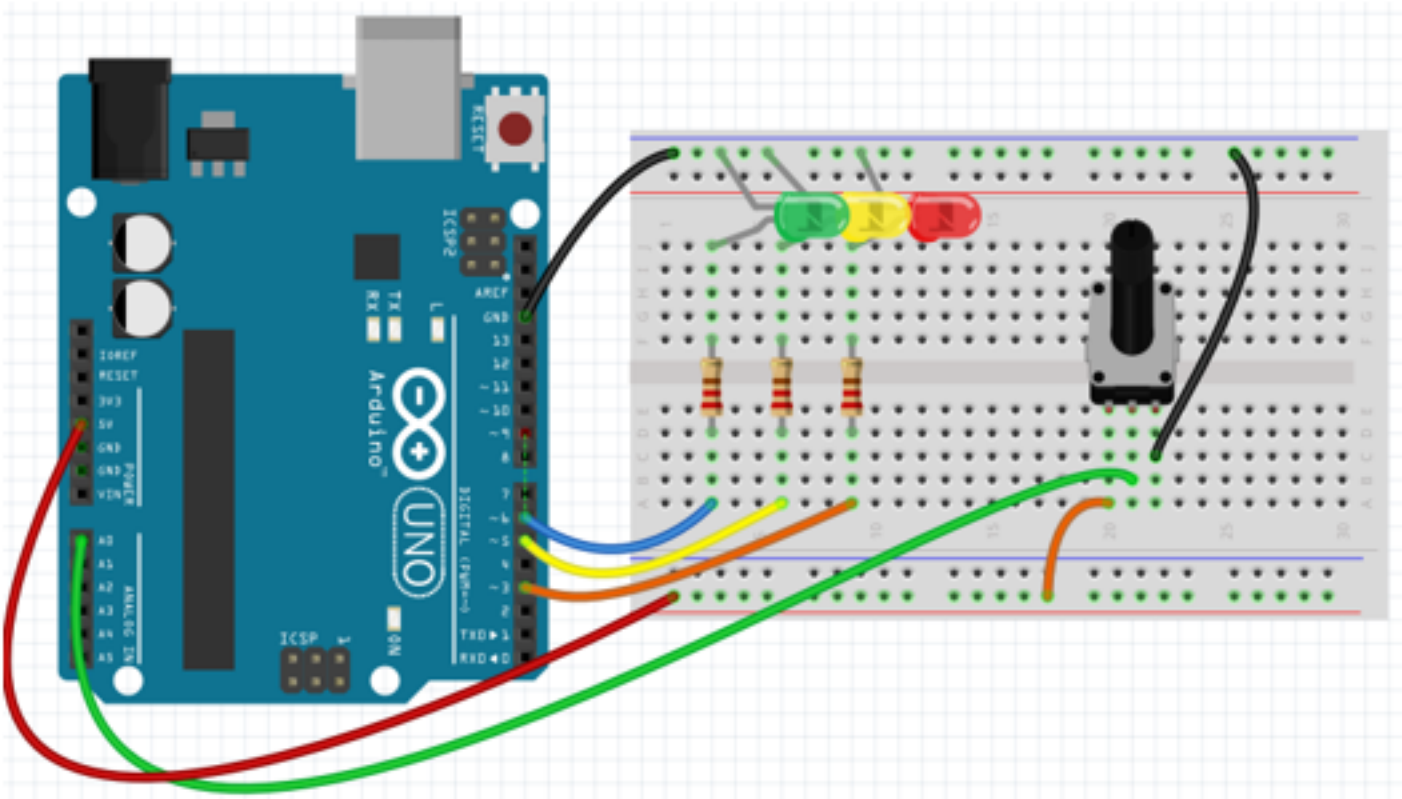
Components List

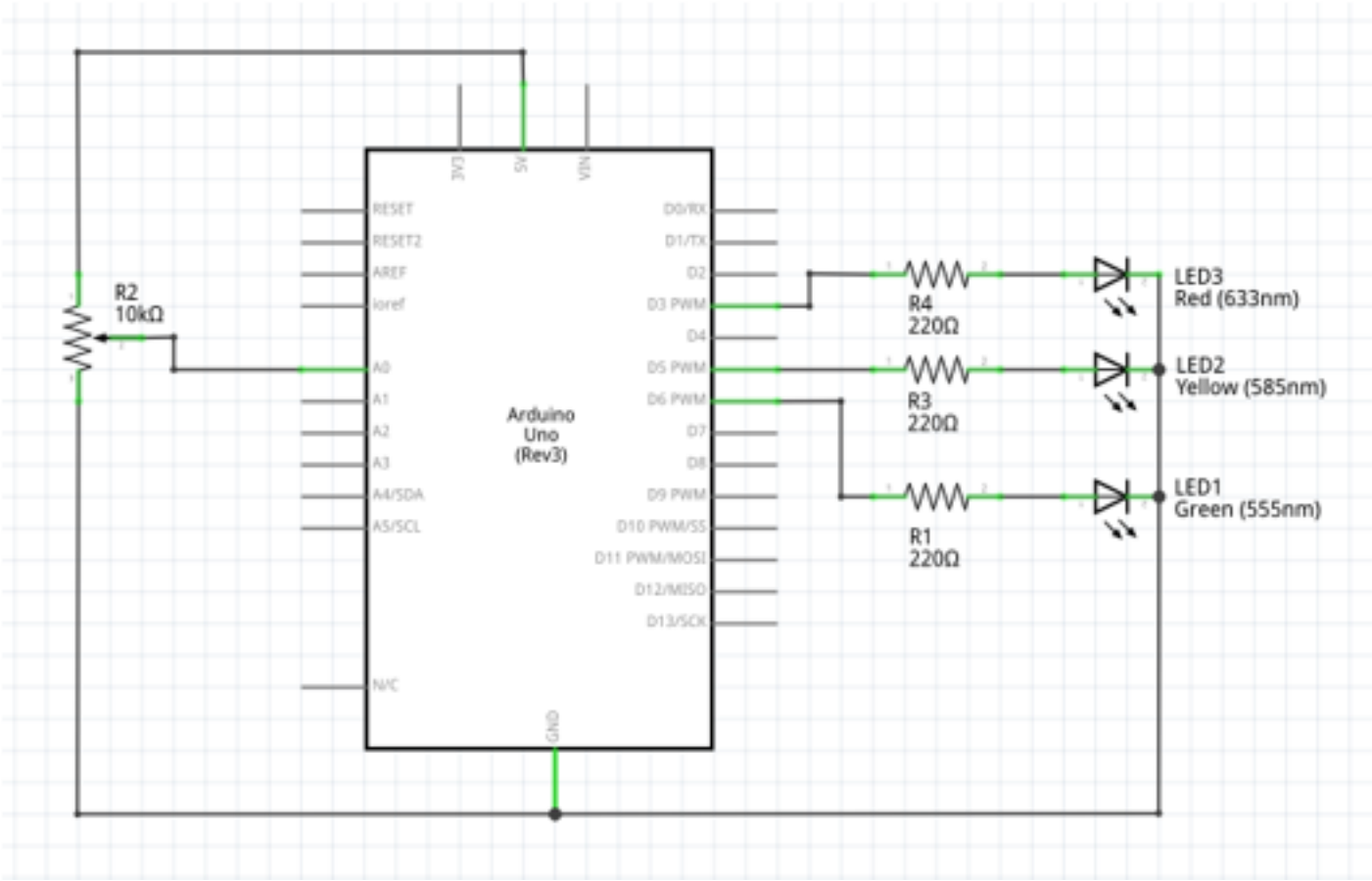
- 1 x Arduino
- 1 x 10kΩ Potentiometer
- 3 x LEDs (Red, Yellow, Green)
- 3 x 220Ω Resistors
- Jumper Wires
- Breadboard

Wiring Diagram

1. Connect the **middle pin** of the potentiometer to **A0** on the Arduino.
2. Connect one outer pin of the potentiometer to **5V** and the other to **GND**.
3. Connect the **Red LED** (with a 220Ω resistor) to **pin 3**.
4. Connect the **Yellow LED** (with a 220Ω resistor) to **pin 5**.
5. Connect the **Green LED** (with a 220Ω resistor) to **pin 6**.
6. Connect all LED **cathodes** to **GND**.

Sparks, Mics, & Wires





Code Example

```
// Define the analog pin for the potentiometer
const int potPin = A0;

// Define the digital pins for the three LEDs
const int redLED = 3;
const int yellowLED = 5;
const int greenLED = 6;

// Variable to store the potentiometer reading
int potValue = 0;

void setup() {
    // Set LED pins as output
    pinMode(redLED, OUTPUT);
    pinMode(yellowLED, OUTPUT);
    pinMode(greenLED, OUTPUT);

    // Begin serial communication for debugging
    Serial.begin(9600);
}

void loop() {
    // Read the potentiometer value (0-1023)
    potValue = analogRead(potPin);

    // Map the potentiometer value from (0-1023) to (0-100) for easier handling
    int mappedValue = map(potValue, 0, 1023, 0, 100);

    // Print the mapped value to the Serial Monitor
    Serial.println(mappedValue);

    // Turn on LEDs based on potentiometer position
    if (mappedValue < 33) { // If the value is less than 33, turn on the red LED only
        digitalWrite(redLED, HIGH);
        digitalWrite(yellowLED, LOW);
        digitalWrite(greenLED, LOW);
    } else if (mappedValue < 66) { // If the value is between 33 and 65, turn on the yellow
LED only
        digitalWrite(redLED, LOW);
        digitalWrite(yellowLED, HIGH);
        digitalWrite(greenLED, LOW);
    } else { // If the value is 66 or greater, turn on the green LED only
        digitalWrite(redLED, LOW);
        digitalWrite(yellowLED, LOW);
        digitalWrite(greenLED, HIGH);
    }

    // Small delay to stabilize readings
    delay(100);
}
```

How It Works

1. Mapping the Potentiometer Value

```
int mappedValue = map(potValue, 0, 1023, 0, 100);
```

- The **analogRead()** function reads the **potentiometer's position**, giving a value between **0 and 1023**.

- The **map() function** converts this range **(0-1023)** into a more manageable range of **0 to 100**.
- This makes it easier to use in logical comparisons.

2. **IF Statement for LED Control**

```
if (mappedValue < 33) {
    digitalWrite(redLED, HIGH);
    digitalWrite(yellowLED, LOW);
    digitalWrite(greenLED, LOW);
}
```

- If **mappedValue is less than 33**, the **red LED turns on**, while the other two LEDs remain off.

```
else if (mappedValue < 66) {
    digitalWrite(redLED, LOW);
    digitalWrite(yellowLED, HIGH);
    digitalWrite(greenLED, LOW);
}
```

- If **mappedValue is between 33 and 65**, the **yellow LED turns on**, while the others are off.

```
else {
    digitalWrite(redLED, LOW);
    digitalWrite(yellowLED, LOW);
    digitalWrite(greenLED, HIGH);
}
```

- If **mappedValue is 66 or greater**, the **green LED turns on**, while the others remain off.

Overall Explanation

- The potentiometer acts like a **selector switch**:
  - **Turn it left** → Red LED lights up.
  - **Turn it to the middle** → Yellow LED lights up.
  - **Turn it right** → Green LED lights up.
- This introduces **conditional statements (IF-ELSE)** to make decisions based on input values.

Ending Challenge

Now that you understand IF statements, let's take it a step further! Try modifying the code to:

- **Cycle through the LEDs** in a looping pattern by combining the **FOR loop** and **potentiometer mapping**, building on our previous Tinker's Corner discussion on the FOR loop.
- Use the potentiometer to **control the speed** of LED rotations.
- What are other ways you can use the IF Statement? Perhaps with a few buttons?

- Can you make the LEDs **rotate faster or slower** based on the potentiometer position? Happy tinkering!
- Can you come up with a button + pot using for and if statement to create something else?

Next Up- Swtich – Case statements, giving us selectable options.

Optimizing a Drain Spout Antenna for HF: One Ham's Journey

By Jim McCusker - K3YO

Like many hams, I found myself looking for a stealthy, multiband antenna that could be deployed with minimal visual impact due to my HOA limitations. The answer? A 50+ foot aluminum drain spout running down the side of my non-metallic, wood-framed house.

This article walks through my process of transforming a humble rain gutter into a reasonably effective HF vertical antenna, including the evolution of feedline strategies, matching networks, counterpoise tuning, and SWR optimization using a RigExpert AA-230 Zoom.

Initial Antenna Configuration

My original setup was intended to be a multiband EFHW using the following components:
- Radiator: 50+ ft aluminum downspout
- Feedline: 75 ft RG8X coax
- Matching: 1:1 choke → 9:1 unun
- Counterpoise: Single 17' wire connected to the unun ground lug

Initial SWR Measurements (via AA-230 Zoom)

Frequency (kHz)	Band	SWR
3993	80m	2.0
7200	40m	2.5
14200	20m	1.33
28500	10m	1.45
52000	6m	2.6

After setting up my feedline, choke and 9:1 unun and obtaining the above reading I though I was the luckiest radio operator to have achieved such amazing SWR readings on my first try. Unfortunately, when I tried to transmit I was barely able to reach anyone, especially on the 10m and 20m which had the best SWR. I suspected the 75' coax so decided to shorten it.

Step 1: Shortening the Coax

I reduced the feedline to 18 feet of RG8X to eliminate unnecessary loss and get more accurate SWR readings. *As I later discovered, I should have immediately checked the SWR at the feed point of my antenna which would have saved a lot of time...but this is how we learn.*

Drain Spout Antenna for HF

SWR After Coax Reduction

Frequency (kHz)	Band	SWR
3993	80m	3.9
7200	40m	3.3
14200	20m	1.72
28500	10m	3.0
52000	6m	3.9

Initially, I thought my SWR's might have improved, but they actually got worse. This made me scratch my head a little and do a bit of research to discover the suggestion of adding counterpoise wires after the unun. (*In fact, my SWR readings were getting more accurate.)*

Step 2: Counterpoise Experimentation

To stabilize feedpoint impedance and improve efficiency, I tested multiple counterpoise wire lengths.

Counterpoise Wire Trials

Wire Length	Target Band
8.5 ft	10m
17 ft	20m
33 ft	40m
67 ft	80m

After adding the counterpoise wires my SWR's improved for 40m & 80m while 20m and above got worse.

Frequency (kHz)	Band	SWR
3993	80m	3.1
7200	40m	3.2
14200	20m	3.3
28500	10m	3.2
52000	6m	5.5

Again I went back to research what might be causing this and decided to ask ChatGPT for some suggestions. It suggested removing the 9:1 unun as it suspected it was actively mismatching my antenna feedpoint. (*In hindsight, I should have made a direct SWR reading at the antenna feedpoint)*

Step 3: Removing the 9:1 Unun

When I removed the 9:1 unun and re-ran the system using only the 1:1 choke, the results improved dramatically on the higher bands, but worsened on 40m/80m.

SWR (No 9:1, All Counterpoises)

Frequency (kHz)	Band	SWR
3993	80m	5.6
7200	40m	3.5
14200	20m	2.5
28500	10m	2.4
52000	6m	3.8

Once again, I asked ChatGPT what might be going and it suggested removing the 67' counterpoise.

Step 4: Removing the 67' Counterpoise

The 67' radial, although logical for 80m, was detuning the system, especially 80m. After removing it and keeping the 33', 17', and 8.5' wires, results stabilized for 40m and 80m while slightly degrading the higher bands. It's likely that the 67' counterpoise drew current from the radiator, thus turning the counterpoise into a lossy radiator.

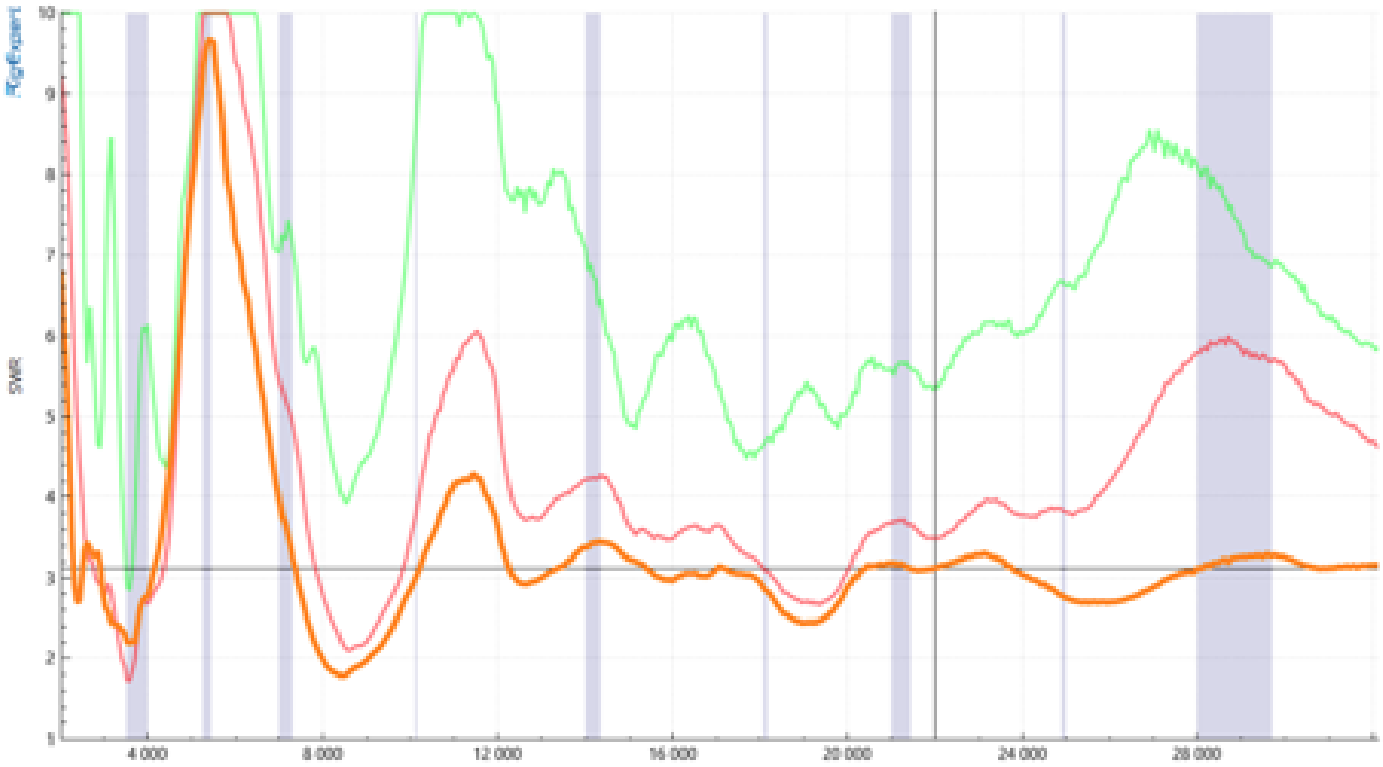
Final SWR (No Unun, 3 Counterpoises)

Frequency (kHz)	Band	SWR
3993	80m	3.1
7200	40m	3.2
14200	20m	3.3
28500	10m	3.2
52000	6m	5.5

While a bit disappointing, my SWR readings could be managed with an external antenna tuner. I'm happy to say that I've successfully made contacts on 80m through 10m's and this setup is likely the most optimum setup I can expect to achieve since I can't adjust the drain spout's length.

Antenna Feedpoint SWR

After all of this, I decided to perform one final SWR reading directly at the feed point to my gutter with the counterpoise wires attached (red line). This ultimately gave me my antenna's true SWR readings. In hindsight, I should have done this first – lesson learned. This produced the following chart (which includes other readings I took at different points in the feedline:

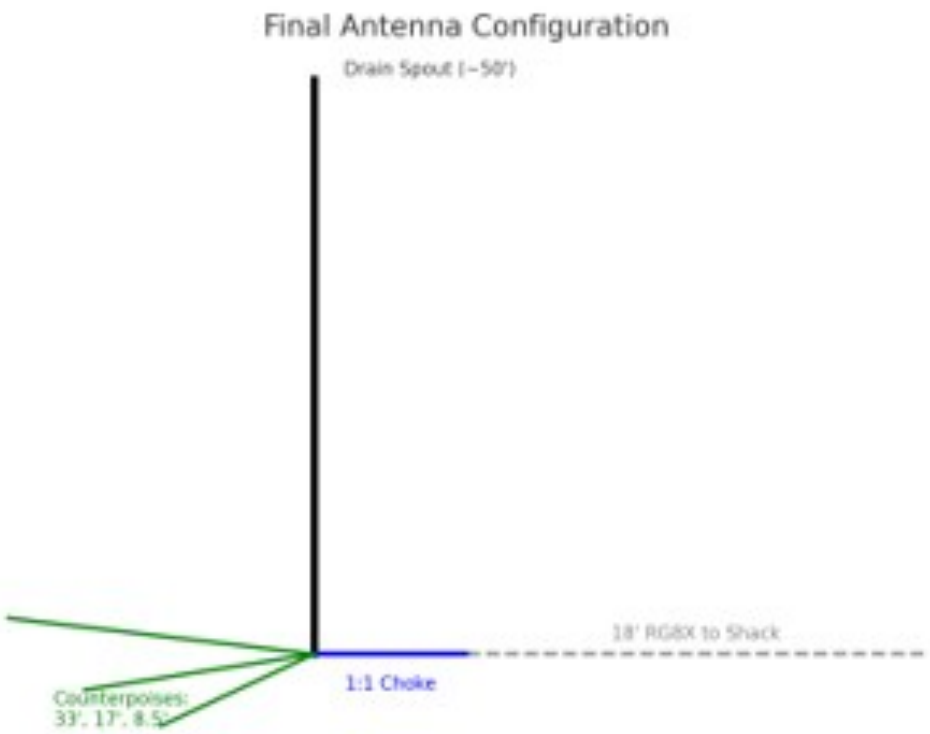


While disappointing, it let me know that my gutter is best used on just 80m. It also showed me how adding small changes to the feedline can dramatically change your perceived SWR readings and give you misleading SWR readings due to the electrical interactions of the feedline before the antenna. Play-Break-Fix!

Final Configuration Diagram

See the figure below for a visual representation of the final optimized antenna system.

Drain Spout Antenna for HF



Drain Spout Antenna for HF

N3ZP's Contest Corner

Here is the contest calendar report for July. It starts out with the 13 Colonies Special Event and includes some QSO parties and VHF contests too.July 1 - July 7

13 Colonies Special Event - 1300Z Jul. 1 - 0400Z Jul. 8. All bands except 60 Meters. Also 6 and 2 Meter simplex. All modes, CW, Phone, Digital including FT8/FT4. Rules: http://13colonies.us. Not a contest but special operating event. Work the special call sign stations in all the original 13 Colonies plus the 3 bonus stations. Collect the special QSL cards and get the certificate too. Look for the 1 X 1 special calls spotted on DX Summit. There will also be D-Star over K3PDR repeater for WM3PEN and GB13COL. Some Phil-Mont members will be operating WM3PEN.

CQ Worldwide VHF SSB/CW Contest - 1200Z Jul. 5 - 1200Z Jul. 6. 6 and 2 Meters. SSB, CW, FM. Rules:https://www.cqww-vhf.com/. Work stations on 6 and 2 Meters. This is the season for VHF openings. All license classes can participate.

Original QRP Contest - 1500Z Jul. 5 - 1500Z Jul.6. Worldwide. 80, 40 and 20 Meters. CW, SSB. Maximum power 20 Watts. Rules:http://www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/oqrpr.html. Turn down the power and work some DX in this low-key German sponsored event encouraging low power QSOs. Many operators only work for a few hours,

July 12 - July 13

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon - 1200Z Jul. 12 - 2400Z Jul.13. Worldwide. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 10 and 6 Meters. CW. Rules:https://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/. A contest for aspiring CW operators using straight keys, side-swipers or “bugs”.

IARU HF World Championship - 1200Z Jul. 12 - 1200Z Jul. 13. Worldwide. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW, Phone. Rules:http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship. A worldwide contest to promote operating skills. Work IARU HQ stations for bonus points.

July 19 - July 20

YOTA Contest - 1000Z - 2159Z Jul. 19. Worldwide. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW, SSB. Rules: https://yotacontest.mrasz.org/. A Hungarian sponsored contest to encourage activity by young operators (under 26). Work young hams around the world.

N3ZP's Contest Corner

North American QSO Party, RTTY. 1800Z Jul.19 - 0559Z Jul. 20. 80, 40, 15 and 10 Meters. RTTY. Rules:https://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf. A short RTTY contest focused on working North American stations. Use your FLDIGI skills for some RTTY QSOs.

CQ Worldwide VHF Contest, Digital - 1200Z Jul. 19 - 1200Z Jul. 20. 6 and 2 Meters. Digital modes. Rules:https://www.cqww-vhf.com/. Work some digital modes on 6 and 2 Meters. Six has had some good band openings lately.

July 26 - July 27

MARAC US Counties QSO Party - 0000Z Jul. 26 - 2400Z Jul. 27. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 Meters. CW, Phone, Digital. Rules:http://www.marac.org/contests.htm. Work as many counties as possible in all 50 states in a contest sponsored by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club with an emphasis on mobile stations. Operate mobile if you can but all operators can participate.

Alabama QSO Party - 1500Z Jul.26 - 0300Z Jul.27. 80 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW, Phone. Rules:http://alabamacontestgroup.org/aqp/rules/. Work Alabama stations in all 67 counties.

FRAPR 10 Meter Contest - 0000Z Jul- 26 - 2359Z Jul. 27. 10 Meter Band. CW, SSB. Ruleshttps://www.frapr.org/concursos/. Work Puerto Rico stations in this 10 Meter contest. All classes can enter and 10 is open to the south almost daily.

That wraps up July, 2025. As always, you can reach out to me for assistance or advice in participating in a contest and logging.

Phil N3ZP

From the PMRC Archive...

Here are some highlights from this month in Blurb history, July1965...

MODEL AIRPLANE *Meet*

ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS

AMA

WILLOW GROVE
NAVAL AIR STATION

WEEK OF JULY 25 1965
FINALS - AUG. 1

Submit whatever you can; give as much dope as possible, such as dates, time, places, and to be sure, "handle", and call. We will do the rest! You see, we have a new typewriter with a tremenduous vocabulary and excellent spelling ability. There is also a new secretary to go with all of this.
As I size up the past issues of the BLURB, Bob and Peg have not taught the new typewriter any bad habits. Trusting this tobe reliable data and with your help, we shall do our best to keep the new issues coming.
As it looks from here, we sure owe a lot to Bob for editing and authoring the many issues - at least, so IT SEEMS TO ME.

de Lloyd, W3CDY

READING R.C. AND PHILMONT

CLAMBAKE

SUNDAY - JULY 25TH

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? Julybe you have some goodies for sale?

Click the big blue envelope

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