



# The Blurb

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

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

Volume 77 Number 4

## Spring POTA-FEST!



# The Prez Sez...

## Fellow Phil-Monters,

They say March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb — but around here, it mostly just came in cold and stayed that way. That didn't stop us from having one of our busiest months of the year.

### QRP, Kits, and Keeping It Simple

A big thank you to Mike, KC3UKC, for his excellent presentation on QRP rigs at our March general meeting. There's something beautifully humbling about making contacts with a few watts and a wire, and Mike did a great job reminding us that you don't need a kilowatt and a tower to have a good time on the air. If his talk has you eyeing a pocket-sized rig for your next adventure, you're not alone.



### Spring POTA-Fest: Cold Hands, Warm Signals

The last weekend of March brought our Spring POTA-Fest, and while Mother Nature didn't exactly cooperate with the temperature, the energy on the air — and at the park — was fantastic. Several hardy members camped out for the weekend, proving once again that amateur radio operators are a hearty bunch.

The highlight for me personally? We had four students from the Pig Iron School join us on site. Thanks to Bob, WA3PZO for coordinating this meetup. Greg and I had the pleasure of walking them through setting up my station, and they were absolutely riveted watching the ball launcher send a line up into the trees to deploy my end-fed wire antenna. From there, we got all four of them on the air, making contacts with a helpful POTA station down in Mississippi on 17m. Watching a person's face light up at that first contact — knowing their voice just traveled hundreds of miles on a piece of wire strung through a tree — is exactly why we do outreach events like this. Between our five stations on the field, they got to see the full range of what this hobby is about. Well done to everyone who set up, operated, and helped make that possible. Special thanks to Greg, KC3SMW and Mike, KC3UKC for being there and making it all happen.

### Hamfest Season Is Here

Spring means hamfests, and there's no shortage of them on the calendar over the next couple of months. Whether you're hunting for a deal on gear, looking to upgrade your shack, or just want to spend a few hours among like-minded people who think a good VHF combiner is an exciting find — get out there. Check the Upcoming Hamfests pages in this issue for dates and details.

### Looking Ahead: Visualizing Radio

Our April general meeting is going to be a good one. Jeremy, N3ZLQ — president of the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club, which happens to be the first club I ever joined back in 1985 — will be presenting on visualizing radio signals. If you've ever been curious about SDR waterfalls, spectrum displays, or just want to see what's happening on the bands, this one's for you. Don't miss it.

# 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. There's some great ones this month, keep them coming.

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.

See you on the nets!

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**



# 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 5 to 6pm 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 online help. 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 Co/Lawrenceville Input  
North and East PL 88.5 (147.030)

Delaware County West and South  
PL 100.0 (147.030)

UHF: 444.80 MHz Yaesu  
System Fusion WiresX

[ECHOLINK W3QV-R](#) &

[ALLSTAR Node# 47970](#)

Phil-Mont Simplex Frequency  
147.510MHz PL91.5 TSQL

## Sunday Morning Nets

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)

**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!](#)

*The Blurb*

## **April** Sunday Net Control Schedule

5-Apr WA3GM

12-Apr W3MHP

19-Apr KB3IV

26-Apr N3QV

# Club Business

## NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

Wednesday, April 8th

Giant Supermarket 315 York Rd.

Willow Grove, PA 19090

**5:30PM Yack & Snack**

**6:30PM Meeting Starts**

**7PM Presentation**

April

Presentation: Jeremy

N3ZLQ Visualizing

Signals

## This Month's Birthdays

KC3DRE	Mark G Thomas	1-Apr
KC2PMW	Andrew J Furlong	6-Apr
K3HIJ	Michael Elmaleh	10-Apr
KD3WT	Richard L Patterson	15-Apr
N3BKR	Kent D Simmons	15-Apr
K3NOP	Charlie Bricker	17-Apr
WB3BPI	Brad King	21-Apr
K3YO	Jim McCusker	26-Apr
NG3P	Gwen Patton	28-Apr
AC3LW	John A Cunnion	29-Apr
KC3KAY	Brian J Therien	29-Apr

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

## New Club Members

**Elizabeth "Lizz" Cooper, WB3BLF, General**

**Megan Miller, KD3CPY, Technician**

**Gregory May, KD3CVQ, General**



welcomes you!

# Phil-Mont Membership Statistics

April 2026

## Member Types Statistics: (Active Members)

REGULAR Membership	188
Honorary	3
Board Member	7
Officer	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>202</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](#) 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 may 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)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 2,200 M (135 kHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - SSB	<input type="checkbox"/> - Repeater QSO (2 M and up)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 630 M (472 kHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - CW	<input type="checkbox"/> - Repeater QSO (10 or 6 M)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 160 M (1.8 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - AM	<input type="checkbox"/> - Simplex FM QSO (VHF/UHF)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 80/75 M (3.5/3.8 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - FM	<input type="checkbox"/> - SSB QSO (VHF/UHF)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 60 M (5.3 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - PSK (31, 63)	<input type="checkbox"/> - CW Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 40 M (7 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - FT4	<input type="checkbox"/> - Contest Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 30 M (10.1 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - FT8	<input type="checkbox"/> - Satellite and/or EME Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 20 M (14 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Other WSJT- X Modes (FSK441, JT6M, JT65, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Fox Hunt (ARDF)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 17 M (18 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - JS8call	<input type="checkbox"/> - WinLink Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 15 M (21 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Packet (AX25)/APRS	<input type="checkbox"/> - EchoLink Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 12 M (24.9 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - SSTV or Fast Scan ATV	<input type="checkbox"/> - WAS (work all 50 states)
<input type="checkbox"/> - 10 M (28 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Digital FM- DMR, D-Star, Fusion, etc.) or Hotspots	<input type="checkbox"/> - Work <u>50</u> countries
<input type="checkbox"/> - 6 M (50 MHz)		<input type="checkbox"/> - Work <u>100</u> countries
<input type="checkbox"/> - 2 M (144 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - Pactor, Clover, Olivia, Throb, DominoEX, MT63, Thor, AMTOR, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> - WAC- Work All Continents
<input type="checkbox"/> - 1.25 M (222 MHz)		<input type="checkbox"/> - POTA (Parks On The Air) or SOTA (Summits On The Air) Chaser Contact
<input type="checkbox"/> - 75 cm (440 MHz)	<input type="checkbox"/> - FAX or Hellschreiber	<input type="checkbox"/> - POTA or SOTA Activation
<input type="checkbox"/> - 33 cm (902 MHz)	<b>Club</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> - Higher Microwave Bands	<input type="checkbox"/> - Attend an ARC meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> - POTA Activator
<b>Build or Install</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> - Present at ARC meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> - <u>Work</u> your State QSO party
<input type="checkbox"/> - New VHF/UHF Antenna	<input type="checkbox"/> - Head a committee	<b>Build/Test/Repair</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> - New HF Antenna	<input type="checkbox"/> - Attend a Hamfest	<input type="checkbox"/> - Electronics Kit or Homebrew
<input type="checkbox"/> - New Mobile Radio	<input type="checkbox"/> - Teach a Licensing Class or be a VE	<input type="checkbox"/> - Use an Antenna Analyzer or nano-VNA to measure
<input type="checkbox"/> - New Mobile Antenna	<input type="checkbox"/> - Mentor a new ham	<input type="checkbox"/> - Fix non-working Radio
<input type="checkbox"/> - Computer/Radio Interface	<input type="checkbox"/> - Write a newsletter article	<input type="checkbox"/> - Arduino, Rasp Pi microprocessor project or Program
<input type="checkbox"/> - New Operating Desk	<input type="checkbox"/> - Volunteer for Public Serv	

# Ham Radio Challenge

Here's a fun game.  
GO PLAY RADIO. Let's see who can get BINGO first!

## BIN-G - POTA Edition

activated in rain or snow	has hunted 1,000+ parks	owns an Icom 7300	N1CC activator or hunter	activated or hunted CW
hunted or activator 6 pack	activated between midnight and dawn	owns something with the POTA logo on it.	activated or hunted digital modes	completed a 5 park rove
activated or hunted on a Leap Day	activated 100 unique parks		activated or hunted an ATNO	found a tick during/after activating
activated in more than one country	hunted 15+ parks in a day	has activated or hunted QRP	questioned by police, sheriff or, park ranger	has hunted or activated all parks in a state
owns more than two POTA radios	driven 100+ miles on a rove	hunted or activated all 50 states	is a part of facebook / discord group	activator with a kilo at a park

# 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, April's topics TBD.

# The PASTA Net!

## Plain and Simple Talk Around Net = PASTA

How the net will operate:

Net Control will open NET LOGGER <https://www.netlogger.org/> and call for check-ins.

As people check in they will be put on net logger and will see their position in the rotation if they too are using Net Logger. It's not necessary for participants to use Net Logger but it can be convenient.

Once all are checked in, Net Control will turn it over to the first check in and start to "Talk About" what they have to say. Once done making their comment they pass to the next person and so on. At any time during the comments a person can contact another check in during their turn for direct communication with the another check-in.

When the bottom of the list is reached, Net Control will take over and call for more check-ins and the process starts over with the new check-ins starting first.

There will be no strict time limit, stations can check out at any time, even in and out. Two hours is recommended as a maximum. When Net Control feels the net is slowing down, a call for final check-ins will be made and if none heard, there will be a call for final comments.

The idea is for a directed "rag chew" type of net. Just something different. This idea is borrowed from the Rochester net that is held on 3.972 on Tuesday and Thursday night.

Join in. Have fun. It's what we do.

Dave, K3DFG  
PMRC Secretary  
PMRC Net Control Coordinator

# 2026 Soccer Tournament Host City Amateur Radio Special Event Stations

Looking for operators during the World Soccer Championship (update 1: February 25, 2026)

2026 Soccer Tournament Host City Amateur Radio Special Event Stations. This group is not affiliated with FIFA and does not intend to provide any marketing opportunities for any organization or individual. This is a non-profit effort intended to foster the world-wide profile and enjoyment of the amateur radio hobby and celebrate the quadrennial soccer tournament of 48 teams representing countries around the world.

June 11 – July 19: Games being played in 11 US cities, 3 in Mexico, and 2 in Canada.

US Cities include Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Houston, Miami, Kansas City, Seattle, Philadelphia, New York/New Jersey, Los Angeles, San Francisco

Plans are in the works to have Special Event stations on the air during games (or nearby weekend) in their city. The complete schedule can be [found here](#). WM3PEN will represent Philadelphia.

The games in Philadelphia are:

- Côte d'Ivoire v Ecuador | Group E | Sunday, 14 June 7P (Operation could be that weekend)
- Brazil v Haiti | Group C | Friday, 19 June 9P (Operation could be the weekend after)
- France v Bolivia/Iraq/Suriname | Group I | Monday, 22 June 5P (Operation could be the weekend before)
- Curaçao v Côte d'Ivoire | Group E | Thursday, 25 June 4P (Operation could be the weekend before)
- Croatia v Ghana | Group L | Saturday, 27 June 5P (Field Day)
- Match 89 | Round of 16 | Saturday, 4 July 5P (13 Colonies)

The Goal is to NOT interfere with anyone participating with PHLARES/Red Cross operations on the day of the game. Looking to operate either the day that the game is being held and/or the closest weekend to the event so as not to interfere with ARES/Red Cross activity. Operating schedule is subject to operator availability. The week of July 1 -7 will have the 13 Colonies operators.

Bands: All bands except 60 Meters. SSB, CW, Digital. No repeaters, VOIP, Digital Voice.

Operate from home or portable. POTA style operation may be possible from a soccer field. Introduce soccer fans to ham radio.

Certificate: Downloadable national certificate will be available. Website in progress.

QSL Cards: There will be special event QSL cards for each call sign. Details being worked out.

How can you participate? A club may want to operate for a weekend or selected game. An individual may want to be part of a multi club/multi date operator event. Discuss the actual operating dates with WA3PZO.

For further information contact Bob, WA3PZO [wa3pzo@aol.com](mailto:wa3pzo@aol.com).

# Club QSO Party 6/20-21/26

## CLUB QSO Party

[www.clubqsoparty.org](http://www.clubqsoparty.org)

The June 2026 Club QSO Party is Co-Sponsored By the Following

Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club - South Jersey Radio Assn- Kent Amateur Radio Society

**Period: June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 00:00 UTC to June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026 23:59 UTC (48 Hours)**

Objective: Work as many Amateur Radio Club members as possible and Listed Amateur Radio Club Stations

**Bands: All Amateur radio bands with the exception of 60m, 30m, 17, & 12m, and all modes including repeater contacts, satellite and EME QSOs will be accepted.**



Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

<https://www.phil-mont.org/>



South Jersey Radio Assn

<https://sjra.club/sjraclub/>



Kent Amateur Radio Society

<https://k3ars.org/kars/>

# Upcoming Club Events

**MARK YOUR 2026 CALENDARS!**

**Upcoming Club Radio Activities**

- April 11th POTAMANIA
- May 9th POTAMANIA
- June 20-21st Club QSO Party
- June 26-28th Field Day
- July 11th POTAMANIA
- August Lighthouse Weekend
- September 12th POTAMANIA
- October 2nd OCTPOTAFEST (OCT 2-3, leave 4th-11am)

**What an amazing 2026 lineup.  
Get ready for some serious fun.**

# March Meeting

Thanks to Mike, KC3UKC for his presentation



# Spring POTA-Fest



# Upcoming Hamfests



## Sussex Amateur Radio Association

### - APRIL 18, 2026 -

## Delmarva Amateur Radio & Electronics EXPO



### Perfectly Positioned for Regional Access

Just 2–3 hours from Baltimore, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Washington, D.C., Virginia Beach, Eastern Pennsylvania, and Southern New Jersey. Tax-Free Shopping • Free Parking • More Value for Vendors & Guests

Make It a Family Weekend at the Beach!

### Speakers & Forums

#### Tower Safety

Jon Zaimes AA1K

#### DMR Basics & Interstate System

Nick Fedirko N3YMS

#### Balun Basics: How To Build Your Own 4:1 and 1:1

Eric Hudson WG3J

#### Parks On The Air (POTA) Demo

Kerri Wright KB3WAV

Del Delfish N2NWK

#### ARRL Meeting & Update

### Events & Attractions

ARRL State Convention Tailgating

Silent Auction Great Raffle Prizes

Free FCC Testing Guest Speakers

Forums QSL Card Checking

Lots of PAVED Parking Vendors

Food Trucks Satellite Mobile Bus

Operate W1AW/3 Station

Guests Pay \$10 To Enter!  
(Under 18 FREE!)

Inside spaces \$20.00 - 1st Table  
Tailgaters : \$10.00 - Each Space

### For Information

Contact Jamie, W3UC

(410) 202-7690

hamfestdelaware@gmail.com

### NEW HAMFEST LOCATION:



**Sussex Academy**  
21150 Airport Rd.  
Georgetown, DE 19954

**Gates open at 6:00 A.M.**  
**Expo begins at 8:00 A.M.**

### Event Schedule

6:00 AM	Gates Open
7:30 AM	Tailgating
8:00 AM	Indoor Venue Opens
9:00 AM	FCC Testing - No Walk-ins/No Test Fee See <a href="http://www.radioelectronicsEXPO.com">www.radioelectronicsEXPO.com</a> for pre-registration link and other event information

### TALK-IN: SARA Repeater

147.090 MHz PL 156.7

Schedule subject to change

### Local Hotels

Tru by Hilton Georgetown  
(3.4 Miles)  
302.515.2100

Microtel by Wyndham  
(2.9 Miles)  
302.396.9719

Quality Inn & Suites  
(3.3 Miles)  
302.339.8506

JOIN US IN TAX FREE DELAWARE!

The Delmarva Radio and Electronics EXPO is sponsored by The Sussex Amateur Radio Association  
A 501(c)3 corporation

The Blurb

# Upcoming Hamfests

## WARMINSTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

### 2026 HAMFEST & ARRL EPA SECTION CONVENTION

Sunday, May 3, 2026 (rain or shine)

Gate opens at 7am (6am for vendors)

#### LOCATION:

Bucks County Community College -  
Lower Bucks Campus  
1304 Veteran's Hwy (Route 413)  
Bristol, PA 19007

#### GPS Coordinates:

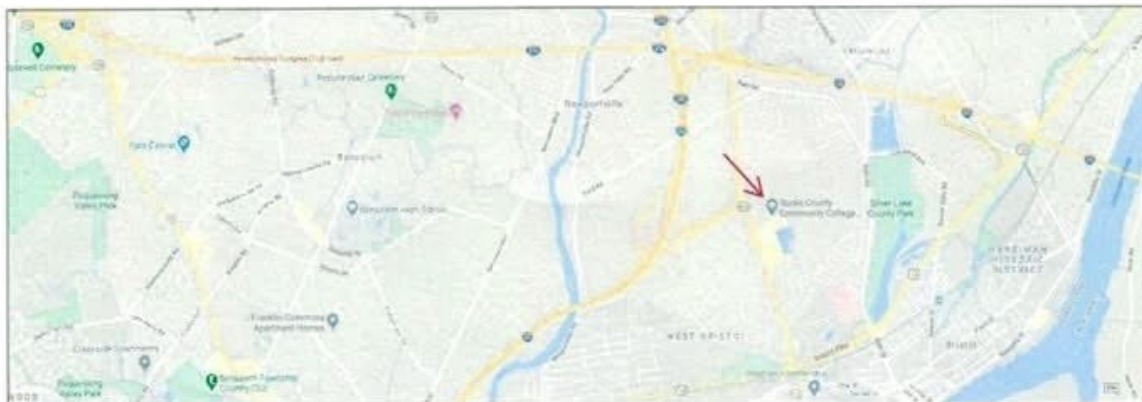
Latitude: 40.112755 | Longitude: -74.876504

Talk-in 147.09+ (131.8) / 443.95+ (131.8)

- New & Used Ham Radio & PC Equipment
  - Equipment check-out table
  - VE Testing at 10:00 am
  - DXCC card checking
  - Door prizes every hour
  - Food service available
  - ARRL Guest Speaker
- (See K3DN website: [www.k3dn.org](http://www.k3dn.org) for announcement of speakers and times)



- Gate admission: \$8/person
- Unlicensed spouses & under 13 free
- Student free with valid ID
- Handicap parking available
- Tailgating: \$10/car-width space (plus admission)
- Indoor tables: \$20/table (plus admission)



For more info:  
Web: [www.k3dn.org](http://www.k3dn.org)  
Contact: [hamfest@k3dn.org](mailto:hamfest@k3dn.org)

**ARRL** SANCTIONED  
HAMFEST

# Upcoming Hamfests



## HAM FEST AT THE SHORE

SATURDAY MAY 9, 2026

SURF CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY  
713 LONG BEACH BLVD SURF CITY, NJ 08008

8:00AM-1:00PM - VENDOR SET UP 7:00AM



**WALLY'S**  
breakfast - lunch - dinner  
**15% OFF**  
With Event Ticket

Admission Fee: \$5

NON-HAM SPOUSES AND KIDS FREE!

Indoor Vendor Table - \$15 - Includes table and 1 Admission

Outside Vendor - \$10 - 1 Parking Space Area, No Tables Provided

Vendor space limited - first come, first serve.

Food and Drink Available \* Benefits Surf City Vol. Fire Company

**DOOR PRIZES!**

TALK IN FREQUENCY  
146.835  
127.3 PL

QUESTIONS? Contact Ira, N2WAA  
hamfest@obarc.org - 201.741.5330



# Changes to DXCC Award

## ARRL Announces Changes to DXCC Award

Reported by Woody K3YV

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) announced today that starting in April 2026 the requirements for the DXCC award will be modified to encompass more diversified combinations of countries and contacts.

Prior to April 2026 the DXCC award required a minimum of one confirmed contact with a minimum of 100 countries. Each contact had to be, and will still be, required to be on the ARRL DXCC country/entity list. There are currently 340 DXCC entities eligible for DXCC consideration.

After 1 April 2026, the requirements to satisfy the DXCC award will allow a combination of countries and contacts which add up to 100. Specifically, the number of countries and the number of contacts in each of those countries must add up to 100. So, for instance, you could work 50 countries with two contacts in each country and still qualify for the DXCC award. Making ten contacts in each of ten countries is also eligible for a DXCC award.

Finally, you can make 100 contacts in one country and still receive your DXCC certificate. However, there is a further limitation on applications containing less than 10 countries: all qualifying contacts must be made within a one-year period. When interviewed, ARRL administrator Bill Oughtred said, "Very few hams are ever able to earn the coveted DXCC award. These new requirements will enable many more radio amateurs to enjoy hanging a DXCC certificate on their wall."

# N3ZP's Contest Corner

Here is the contest calendar report for April. It's a busy contest month with QSO Parties, ARRL DX, CQ WPX, RTTY, PSK31 and some international contests.

April 7 - April 8

ARRL International DX Contest, SSB - 0000Z Mar. 7 - 2400Z Mar. 8. Worldwide. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. SSB. Rules:<https://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>. The phone portion of the ARRL DX Contest with DX stations looking for US and Canada stations. Expect lots of DX stations on the HF bands calling CQ.

Novice Rig Roundup - 0000Z Mar. 7 - 2359Z Mar. 15. Worldwide. 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 2 Meters. CW. Rules:<http://www.novicerigroundup.org/>. An event celebrating the 75 Watt input, crystal controlled radios from the original Novice license days. You don't need an old fashioned rig to operate. All stations are welcome. Expect to hear some interesting CW notes from older gear. Note this event lasts for 8 days.

April 14 - April 16

South America 10 Meter Contest - 1200 Mar. 14 - 1200Z Mar. 15. Worldwide. 10 Meters, CW, SSB. Rules: <http://sa10m.com.ar/wp/rules/>. Work DX stations on the 10 Meter band with higher points for South America stations.

Stew Perry Topband Challenge - 1500Z Mar. 14 - 1500Z Mar. 15. Worldwide. 160 Meters. CW. Rules: <https://www.kkn.net/stew/>. A contest where scoring is based on distance between stations. If you can tune your antenna on 160, work a few stations in less crowded band conditions.

Oklahoma QSO Party - 1500Z Mar. 14 - 0200Z Mar. 15, 1500Z - 2200Z Mar. 15. 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 Meters. CW, Phone, Digital (except FT4/FT8). Rules:<http://k5cm.com/okqp.htm>. Work the 77 OK counties. Expect some OK stations be mobile or roving stations going to multiple counties.

Idaho QSO Party - 1600Z Mar. 14 - 0400Z Mar. 15, 1400Z Mar. 15 - 0200Z Mar-16. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW, Phone, Digital (except FT4/FT8). Rules:<https://www.idahoqsoparty.org/>. This is a chance for that rare ID contact. Idaho was the last state I needed for Worked All States on Phone and I got it in this contest. Expect to work mobiles and rovers in multiple counties.

North American Sprint - 0000Z - 0359Z Mar. 15. Worldwide. 80, 40 and 20 Meters. RTTY. Rules:<http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf>. A short RTTY sprint where North America can work anyone and DX needs North America.

Wisconsin QSO Party - 1800Z Mar. 15 - 0100Z Mar. 16. All bands except WARC (30, 17 and 12 Meters). CW, Phone, Digital (except FT4/FT8). Rules:<http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm>. Work 72 WI counties in multiple modes with some being mobile, portable or rovers. Not a rare state but some stations may be POTA activations.

# N3ZP's Contest Corner

April 21 - April 23

BARTG HF RTTY Contest - 0200Z Mar. 21 - 0159 Mar. 23. Worldwide. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. RTTY. Rules:<http://www.bartg.org.uk/>. A British sponsored event promoting use of the RTTY mode

PODXS 070 Club St. Patrick's Day Contest. - 0000Z - 2359Z Mar. 21. Worldwide. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 Meters. 100 Watts max. PSK31 Mode. Rules:<https://www.podxs070.com/o7o-club-sponsored-contests/saint-patrick-s-day-contest>. A contest celebrating St. Patrick using PSK31 mode. See the special rules for extra points by spelling "Erin Go Bragh" using suffixes of calls worked.

Virginia QSO Party - 1400Z Mar. 21 - 0400Z Mar. 22, 1200Z - 2400Z Mar. 22. All bands except WARC (30, 17, 12). CW, Phone, Digital. Rules: [https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party/2026\\_VQP/2026\\_VQP\\_Main.html](https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2026_VQP/2026_VQP_Main.html). Work VA stations with multipliers for 95 counties and 38 independent cities. There will be several special stations for bonus points.

Popov Memorial Contest - 0500Z - 0859Z Mar. 21. Worldwide. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters, CW, SSB. Rules:<https://www.contest.ru/memorial-popov-eng/>. A short Russian contest honoring physicist Alexandr Popov who designed an early radio receiver. Work some Russian DX in this short contest. They are good ops and many have big signals.

Russian DX Contest. 1200Z Mar. 21 - 1200Z Mar. 22. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW, SSB. Rules:[https://www.rdx.org/rules\\_eng](https://www.rdx.org/rules_eng). Yes, another Russian contest. Work non-Russian stations also but highest points for Russia,

April 27 - April 29

CQ Worldwide WPX Contest, SSB - 0000Z Mar, 28 - 2359Z Mar. 29. Worldwide. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. SSB. Rules:<https://www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm>. Another of the CQ Worldwide Contests but this one uses prefixes as the multiplier. Stations will be pleased to work those new KC, KD and KE calls.

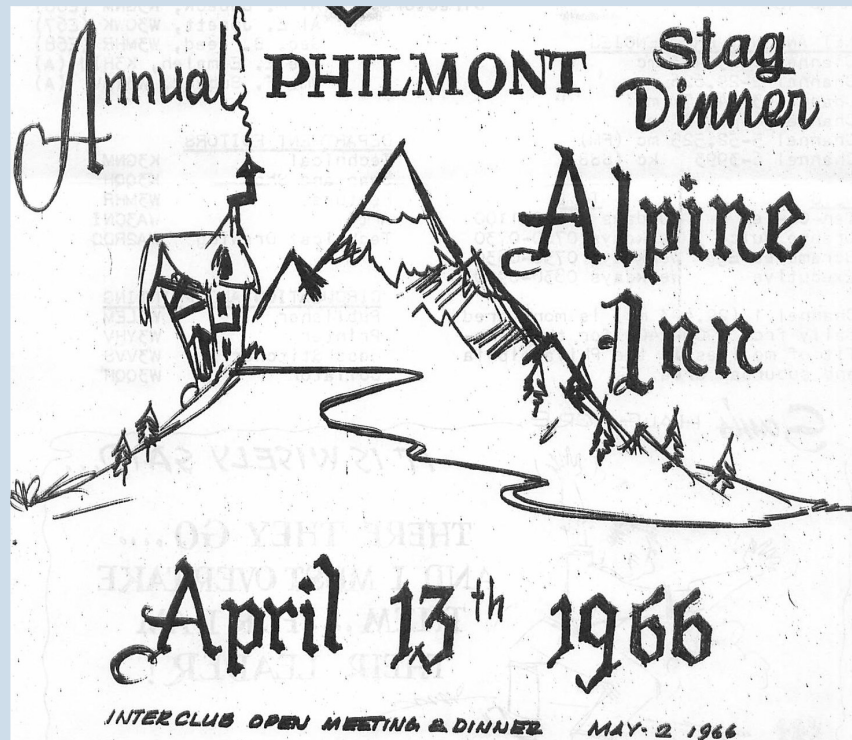
Sasquatch Stomp - 1900Z Mar. 27 - 0300Z Mar. 28. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW. 5 Watts max. Rules: <https://www.pnwqrp.org/sasquatch-stomp>. A fun Pacific North West club sponsored event to get some QRP stations on the air. Not a big high speed CW contest just some silliness on the air with an unusual exchange.

That's my list for April. Not all inclusive but plenty of contest activity. As always, you can reach out to me for assistance or advice in participating in a contest and logging.

Phil N3ZP

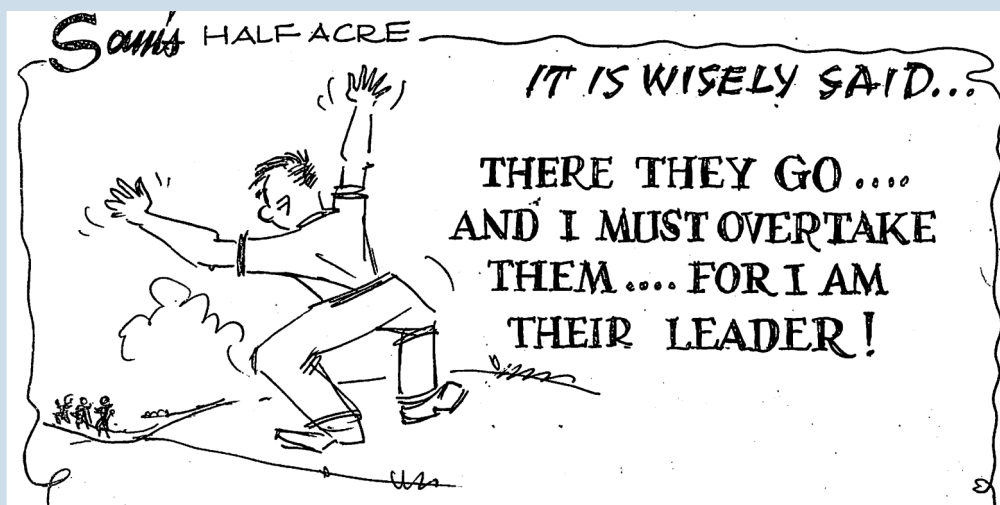
# From the PMRC Archive...

Here are some highlights from this month in Blurb history, April 1966...



\*\*\*\*\*

BET YOU FORGOT! -- to turn in your renewal to ARRL thru the Treasurer! Make it easy, just mark the card and give it to the Treasurer with the fee and he will handle the rest. The club will benefit too, in case you did not remember.



# From the PMRC Archive...

Here are some highlights from this month in Blurb history, April 1966...



**THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE** • PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19103 • LOcust 4-3600

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 14, 1966

Mr. Lloyd Sherman, Editor  
The Blurb  
Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc.  
The Franklin Institute  
20th & Benjamin Franklin Parkway  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Lloyd:

Through you, as Editor of "The Blurb", I want to say thank you to the members of Phil-Mont for the wonderful serenade they accorded me in the March issue. For devoting so much space and the cover to me, I think you ran the risk of being fired!! However, since you seem to have gotten away with it, I shall say thank you very much, indeed.

And to the membership, one and all, let me say this: when I was notified by the British Ambassador of The Queen's action, I was deeply moved; since then I have received a great many letters, but never could I possibly have imagined that my fellow Phil-Mont members would, in such generosity of words and meaning, so greatly compliment me. I profoundly thank you. I am very proud to be in the Club.

Sincerely,

# 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? Do you have some goodies for sale?

**[Click the big blue envelope](#)**

## ***PMRC Officers for 2025***

### **Officers**

**President:** Rich AA3RC

**Vice President:** Greg KC3SMW

**Treasurer:** Jim NS3K

**Secretary:** Dave K3DFG

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## **Blurb Editors:**

**Daniel Wagaman - W4GMN, SK  
Editor Emeritus**

**Richard Roth—AA3RC**



*The Blurb*

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