



The Blurb

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

www.phil-mont.org

Volume 77 Number 1

PHIL-MONT 2026



CONNECTING THE FUTURE



WINTER FIELD DAY | WINTER HEAT



AUCTION-FEST



The Prez Sez...

Fellow Phil-Monters,

A new year with new and more times to play radio. We are stocked up with events for 2026. You just have to come and play. January has Winter Heat, Auction-Fest and wraps up with Winter Field Day. PMRC Labs, POTA-Mania and Spring POTA-Fest are lined up for the spring. Field Day will be here before you know it. All are welcome, member or not. 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 '26 - Always a good time. We have many items from a few estates this year and everyone is looking forward to what you're going to bring to sell and more importantly, what you're going to buy! There will be plenty of "you never knew you needed this" items there this year. **NOTE: Credit Cards Accepted! Again this year, I will donate all the processing fees so that it won't cost the buyers or the club anything for the use of credit cards.** Get your plan together for Auction-Fest, it's going to be here quick. Decide what you want to move on from your shack and start saving your \$\$ for new stuff for your shack. There's going to be plenty of good items up for grabs. See you on January 14th, 2026 at the Ben Wilson Senior Activity Center.

POTA-MANIA '26 - Rinse and Repeat (Thanks Greg, KC3SMW and Mike, KC3UKC). If you didn't get your POTA act together last year, or didn't make it to Okt-POTA Fest, or any of the POTA-Mania events we're doing more club POTA events this year and adding a Spring-POTA Fest. Get help, try out an antenna, try your kit, try other's kits, or just come out and have fun.

LEADERSHIP '26—I would like to thank outgoing board member Muggs, KC3UDZ for his service to the club. I want to welcome and thank Mike, KC3UKC for stepping up and volunteering for the board, as well as Charlie, K3NOP and Jeff, KC3GJX 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.

The Prez Sez...

I recently had the opportunity to meet with Jeff, WN3A, to personally deliver the thank you note so many of you signed. He was truly appreciative and mentioned that it will have a permanent place of honor in his shack.

We shared a wonderful conversation over dinner, during which Jeff noted how much he enjoys supporting Phil-Mont because of how active we are. That is a direct tribute to all the "doers" in our club—those who run our nets and show up for our various activities. It's clear Jeff is a fan of our work; in fact, I suspect he's listening to the repeater much more than we realize!

It's time to renew your membership! Everyone should have gotten a reminder from Hamclubonline. If you need any help renewing, just let me know.

We're always looking for submissions to The Blurb, there's some good ones this month, 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.

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 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 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 TSQ

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 To-day! It's a Fun Way to Meet Our Members!](#)

The Blurb

January Sunday Net Control Schedule

4-Jan W3MHP

11-Jan KB3IV

18-Jan N3QV

25-Jan KE3QB

Club Business

NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

Wednesday, January 14th

**Ben Wilson Senior Activity Center
580 Delmont Avenue
Warminster, PA 18974**

5:30PM Setup

6:30PM Meeting Starts

7PM Auction Starts

January

Presentation:

AUCTION-FEST

This Month's Birthdays

N8BLK Art Clemons 12-Jan

KC3CEW John H Bates 14-Jan

K3KIC Steven F Frederick 26-Jan

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

New Club Members

- **Ken Richmond, KB3UKW, Extra**
- **Glen Johnstone, NK1N, Extra**
- **Tom Wildenstein, KC3SGC Extra**
- **Pete Seely, KD3CEE, General**
- **Chuck Perlingiero, KD3CCE**
- **Larry Wapnitsky, KD3BJK, General**
- **Lee Joseph, KD3CCS, Technician**



welcomes you!

Phil-Mont Membership Statistics

January 2025

Member Types Statistics: (Active Members)

REGULAR Membership	211
Honorary	3
Board Member	7
Officer	4
Total	225

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/g/philares) 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**

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)	Club	
<input type="checkbox"/> - Higher Microwave Bands	<input type="checkbox"/> - Attend an ARC meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> - POTA Activator
Build or Install	<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	Build/Test/Repair
<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	

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, December's topics TBD.

New Weekly Net!

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

WINTERHEAT by John AC3LW

WINTERHEAT IS COMING



What is WINTERHEAT?

WINTERHEAT is a friendly VHF/UHF contest that runs for the month of January.

Unlike most radio contests, this one is well suited for all ham classes as operations are in the Technician portion of the bands. Participants make contacts with other hams using simplex frequencies (not on the repeater). We compete as individuals and as a club, against other individuals in over 100 clubs across the country. W3QV PHIL MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB INC is one of the largest clubs competing in the contest.

How does it work?

Register for a free account at www.hamactive.com (Don't worry, they don't sell your email). Call CQ on the designated frequencies (more about this later). There is no complicated formal exchange, just call signs. Finally, log your contact at Hamactive.com. Logging is a little different than with other sites. One of the parties logs the contact, the other party simply logs in and confirms the contact. You get 2 points for each contact made and 10 points for every confirmed contact.

Call CQ at anytime. PHIL MONT members get together every evening after the drive time net to make contacts. We usually start on the repeater and decide which frequency to call on. Everyone takes turns calling and connecting with whomever can hear them. Then we move to the next fre-

quency and do it again. You can contact the same person once per UTC day on each of the frequencies. (UTC Day here in January is 7:00pm through 6:59pm). The contest begins (in Phila) at 7:00pm local time on January 31.

Why should you join WINTERHEAT?

- ☐ Learn about your equipment's practical capabilities.
- ☐ Find out just how far you can communicate with your radio.
- ☐ You don't need fancy equipment. I have made many contacts using my BaoFeng UV5R
- ☐ You get a full month to experiment with ways to improve your setup.
- ☐ Gain experiences with calling CQ, get over "mic fright".
- ☐ Get contesting experience without the high pressure of major contests.
- ☐ It is a lot of fun!

What frequencies are used?

The frequencies are set by the rules. I program these into the memories of my radio, so they are easy to scan and also to find when I am calling CQ. SEE THE NEXT PAGE.

For more discussion, check out the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club's Groups.IO.

WINTERHEAT by John AC3LW

What frequencies are used?

The frequencies are set by the rules. I program these into the memories of my radio, so they are easy to scan and also to find when I am calling CQ.

Band	Frequency (MHz)	Mode	Channel Name
6 Meters	52.540	Analog FM	6M-Xray
6 Meters	50.350	Analog FM	(Alternative 6M)
2 Meters	147.570	Analog FM	IL2-Charlie
2 Meters	147.525	Analog FM	IL2-Bravo
2 Meters	147.555	Digital (C4FM)	C4FM-V
2 Meters	145.790	Digital (DMR)	DMR-V (TG:99, TS:1, CC:1)
2 Meters	145.670	Digital (D-STAR)	D-STAR-V
1.25 Meters	223.400	Analog FM	1.25M-Xray
70 Centimeters	446.700	Analog FM	ILUHF-Charlie
70 Centimeters	446.400	Analog FM	ILUHF-Bravo
70 Centimeters	446.600	Digital (C4FM)	C4FM-U
70 Centimeters	446.075	Digital (DMR)	DMR-U (TG:99, TS:1, CC:1)
70 Centimeters	446.225	Digital (D-STAR)	D-STAR-U
33 Centimeters	927.100	Analog FM	33cm-Xray

Winter Field Day

January 24th & 25th, 2026



Coming up in a few weeks is the illustrious event known as Winter Field Day, this is a special event designated to give hams the opportunity to improve their preparedness for disasters and enhance their operational abilities. There are a few rule changes this year, including an earlier start to the festivities. Read up! <https://winterfieldday.org/sop.php>

The event runs from 11am Eastern on 1-24 to 5pm on Sunday 1-25. An extra 6 hours!

As a club of do-ers I think this is a great event to get your feet wet with fast-paced contest-like operations!

We will be in the Nockamixon State Park, cabin #1, and have it reserved from Friday until Monday.

We have beds available! There are currently 2 beds remaining. These beds are available to club members. Unfortunately due to state park rules, we are not allowed to pitch tents outside for people to sleep in. If you want a bed, **CONTACT ME!**

We also need band captains, if you want to run a band, **let me know!** We can only set up so many radios in the cabin due to space, so it may be best to plan ahead.

FOOD: We will be going to a local restaurant for food, or you want to cook, you are welcome to bring food/cookware to utilize the kitchen. There is a stove, oven, sink, and fridge on the premises.

During the daytime hours all are welcome to come visit and operate the stations, I'm sure our band captains would love to have a break.

If you have any other questions, ask away! 73, de **Charlie K3NOP/QTH**

January ARRL VHF Contest

What is the Jan ARRL 2026 VHF Contest and How Can I Participate If I am Not a VHF Low Signal Contester?

Berlin NJ January 2026 AA2SD. Coming up during the third week of January the ARRL holds a contest where many local and distant operators will compete and try to contact as many stations as possible on bands above 50 Mhz. The most popular bands are 6 and 2 Mtrs, but all above are included. If you have a rig like the FT-991A you are already set on 6 Mtrs, 2, Mtrs and 70CM. Many Local clubs and operators in the Philadelphia, and Southern New Jersey Area will be active during this period. Including the South Jersey Radio Club, the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, The Mont Airy VHF Club and the Kent Amateur Radio Society.

Dates: The third or fourth full weekend in January as announced. (January 17-19, 2026) and the Contest Period Begins 1900 UTC Saturday, ends 0359 UTC Monday.

How Do I Participate in the ARRL Jan VHF Contest? First and foremost, you don't have to be a "Big Gun" station, many operators including mobile rovers, home stations, portable stations and even stations participating in Parks on the Air and CW can join in for the fun. The contest includes CW, Phone SSB and FT8 modes. This contest is not nearly as busy as an HF Contest, and typically you have several busier periods during the duration of the contest. At the start of the contest which is 2:00PM EST on Saturday Jan 17th, you will have many stations on the air during the first (4) hours of the contest period, and throughout the entire day, stations tend to shift to FT8 during the late evening. Keep in mind based on our own geographic location here with SJRA members, we are in the middle of the "Mt Airy VHF Club Members" in both the Philadelphia and South Jersey areas. Also many SJRA Members, will be active on the air including KE5NJ KC2SGV, N3RG, W2SJ, K2AA, KC2TN, K2WB, WB2EOD, W2FDJ and myself AA2SD/R as a "Rover" and more. During Sunday the Mt Air VHF Club will feature the Pack Rat Bowl. The Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club will be hosting a special activity period during the upcoming January VHF Contest.

On Sunday afternoon January 18th from 19:00 to 22:00 UTC the Pack Rats will be gathering on 2 Meter SSB looking for contacts to move up the bands. 2 MTRS CALL CQ USB 144.180 - 144.220

What type of equipment do I need?

This contest does not have the frantic pace of a HF contest, and if you have a basic Technician license this will give you Entry-level; access to all frequencies above 30 MHz (VHF/UHF). Most of the activity will take place on 6 Mtrs and 2 Mtrs, with Horizontal mode Yagi Antennas. A vertical antenna, commonly used for FM, produces a vertically-polarized signal. Working a station with opposite antenna polarity causes a substantial signal loss, so it is best to maintain the same polarity. The standard SSB calling frequencies are: 50.125 MHz 144.200 MHz and 432.100 MHz.

January ARRL VHF Contest

In this area you can work many stations with vertical antennas on both 6 Mtrs and 2 Mtrs during the contest period. Most of the operation will be on the SSB portion of the band, and the standard calling frequencies are listed above: CW (Morse Code) is used on the weak-signal VHF bands, often intermingled with SSB operation. With the popularity of FT8, this has become a very popular band during the VHF contest, with many stations on 6 Mts and 2 Mtrs. You can work many Grid Squares with FT8 during this contest period.

WSJT-X - ForEW1 v2.2.2 by K1JT, G4WJS, and K9AN

File Configurations View Mode Decode Save Tools Help

Band Activity

UTC	dB	DT	Freq	Message
224515	-17	0.0	1266	~ CQ TEST KC3PIB EN90 U
224545	6	0.2	2399	~ CQ TEST AA5AM EM13 U.
224545	-13	0.1	563	~ K5ND/R N5CXX RR73
224615	9	0.2	2399	~ CQ TEST AA5AM EM13 U.
224615	-20	-0.0	663	~ CQ TEST WA5RR/P EM13
224645	-22	-0.0	664	~ K5ND/P WA5RR/P R EM13
224645	8	0.2	2399	~ CQ TEST AA5AM EM13 U.
224645	-21	0.1	715	~ CQ TEST N4BP EL96 U.
224715	5	0.2	2399	~ CQ TEST AA5AM EM13 U.
224715	-15	0.1	715	~ CQ TEST N4BP EL96 U.
224745	-2	0.2	2399	~ W1RM AA5AM EM13
224745	-17	0.1	715	~ CQ TEST N4BP EL96 U.

Rx Frequency

UTC	dB	DT	Freq	Message
224615	-20	-0.0	663	~ CQ TEST WA5RR/P EM13 U.
224633	Tx		1050	~ WA5RR/P K5ND/P EM24
224645	-22	-0.0	664	~ K5ND/P WA5RR/P R EM13
224700	Tx		1050	~ WA5RR/P K5ND/P RRR
224730	Tx		1050	~ WA5RR/P K5ND/P RRR
224800	Tx		1050	~ WA5RR/P K5ND/P RRR

☐ CQ only Log QSO Stop Monitor Erase Decode Enable Tx Halt Tx Tune ☒ Menus

6m 50.312 494 Tx even/1st Tx 1050 Hz Hold Tx Freq

DX Call WA5RR/P DX Grid EM13 Rx 664 Hz Report -22

Az: 240 134 mi

Look up Add ☒ Auto Seq ☒ Call 1st

2020 Jul 18 22:48:11

Generate Std Msgs

Next	Now
WA5RR/P K5ND/R EM24	<input type="radio"/> Tx 1
WA5RR/P K5ND/R EM24	<input type="radio"/> Tx 2
WA5RR/P K5ND/R R EM24	<input type="radio"/> Tx 3
WA5RR/P K5ND/R RRR	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Tx 4
WA5RR/P K5ND/R 73	<input type="radio"/> Tx 5
CQ TEST K5ND/R EM24	<input type="radio"/> Tx 6

Tx: WA5RR/P K5ND/P RRR FT8 Last Tx: WA5RR/P K5ND/P RRR 2 11/15 WD:5m

FT8 Screen used during the VHF Contest, notice the "CQTEST" mode which is contest mode

What are the Operator Categories? The ARRL Jan VHF contests offers many operating categories based on your power levels, and numbers of levels, follow the link below for full details.

January ARRL VHF Contest

How Do I Make a Contact? - It's really fun and easy during the contest, tune in and listen for "CQ" calls on VHF and UHF Frequencies, you simply call and exchange grid information and log your contacts. Don't forget to submit your log to the ARRL at the contest end. You will need your call sign and a Grid Square for each contact exchange. Officially the contact requires that the two operators exchange callsigns and grid locators. Keep in mind the contest is mostly SSB, CW and FT8, you can also make contacts on simplex. You can not use repeaters frequencies for the contents to make contacts.

Spend a Few Hours Saturday at 2PM or Sunday - Try an hour or so during the start of the contest or during the activity periods. Also look for Rovers, several Rovers will be operating during the contest period and moving from location to location to allow you to work them over and over. SJRA Members KE5NJ/R Rover and myself will be starting in Lancaster PA at a Grid square and finishing in Mullica Hill NJ.

How Can You Get Ready for The Contest?

- ◇ The first thing is turn on your radio and make some noise !
- ◇ Check your 6 and 2 Mtr antennas with the SJRA Nets or Pack Rat Nets or Phil-Mont Nets
- ◇ It's never too late to put up a small 6 Mtr antenna
- ◇ Go Mobile, we have several SJRA members with 6 Mtr capabilities I have spoken with while mobile
- ◇ Go the Chat Room links below, or go the W3SZ Map to check activity
- ◇ Follow a Rover, we will have several rovers traveling during the contest
- ◇ Try FT8 in the evening on 6, 2 or any of the contest bands
- ◇ Monitor the simplex frequencies

January ARRL VHF Contest

Have Fun and Make Some Noise on the Air !

73 Scott

AA2SD/R www.aa2sd.com

Links to Follow: for the ARRL VHF Contest

ARRL Contest explanation: <https://www.arrl.org/january-vhf#:~:text=Additional%20Information,to%20enter%20the%20new%20categories>.

AA2SD/R Rover Plans <https://www.aa2sd.com/arrl-january-vhf-contest-2026>

W3SZ Pack Rat Database Map <https://w3sz.com/map.php>

The ON4KST amateur radio chat <https://www.on4kst.org/chat/login.php?band=8>

Pack Rats VHF Site <https://www.packratvhf.com/index.php>

-----Join and Support

Your Local Clubs

South Jersey Radio Club - <https://sjra.club/sjraclub/>

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club- <https://www.phil-mont.org/>

Mt. Airy VHF Club - <https://www.packratvhf.com/index.php>

Kent Amateur Radio Society - <https://k3ars.org/kars/>

Upcoming Club Events

MARK YOUR 2026 CALENDARS

Club Radio Activities

- January 14th, 2026 Auction-Fest
- January 24th and 25th, Winter Field Day

The start of an amazing 2026 lineup.

Stay tuned for more event listings to show up on this page.

Get ready for some serious fun.

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

“AUCTION-FEST”

Wednesday, JANUARY 14, 2025

7PM 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!

Upcoming Club Events



PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC. 28th ANNUAL HAM RADIO "AUCTION-FEST"

Wednesday, JANUARY 14, 2026

**5:30 PM Setup
7PM Start (General Meeting before auction)**

Ben Wilson Senior Activity Center

**580 Delmont Avenue
Warminster, PA 18974**

DIRECTIONS

**TALK IN: 147.030 (91.5 PL)
For More Information Contact:**

PMRC

P.O. Box 404
Warminster, Pa 18974
OR E-MAIL
info@phil-mont.org

The Blurb

Upcoming Events

AUCTION RULES

1. P.M.R.C. will retain 10% of the sale price up to a max. of \$30.00 per item.
2. All sellers will pay a \$2.00 sellers fee to P.M.R.C.
3. Seller must supply a thorough description of each piece offered for sale on a separate form. (you may make copies of this form)
4. All sales are between the seller and buyer, not P.M.R.C.
5. 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!***

I 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 _____

N3ZP's Contest Corner

Here is the contest calendar report for January. There are some fun operating events, some sprints, RTTY and digital contests. Lots of ways to operate on the coldest days.

January 1 - January 4

ARRL Straight Key Night - 0000Z - 2359 Jan. 1. All bands CW, Rules: Straight Key Night. Not an actual contest, just an nostalgic operating event encouraging old-fashioned CW activity. Dust off the old straight key or "bug" and make a few friendly QSOs. If you have some vintage gear, fire it up and get on.

ARRL RTTY Roundup - 1800Z Jan. 3 - 2400Z Jan. 4. Worldwide. 80, 40 20, 1 and 10 Meters. RTTY. Rules:<https://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>. Work some stations using the RTTY mode. A good chance to use your rig's RTTY decoding or use digital software like FLDIGI or MMTTY.

ARRL Kids Day - 1800Z - 2359Z Jan. 3. 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12. 10 and 2 Meter repeaters. SSB, FM. Rules:<https://www.arrl.org/kids-day>. An operating event to get kids on the air experience. Even repeater contacts are eligible in this one. Share your station with kids and show them why you love this hobby.

PODXS 070 Club PSKFest - 0000Z - 2400Z Jan. 3. Worldwide. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. PSK31 mode. 100 Watts max. Rules:<http://www.podxs070.com/o7o-club-sponsored-contests/pskfest>. Use your FLDIGI skills to work some PSK stations worldwide.

January 10 - January 11

UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest - 1200Z Jan. 10 - 1200Z Jan. 11. Worldwide. 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. BPSK63 Mode, 50 Watts. max. Rules:<https://www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules/uba-psk63-prefix-contest>. Make contacts with anywhere in the world using BPSK63 mode, another of the FLDIGI digital modes.

North American QSO Party, CW - 1800Z Jan. 10 - 0559Z Jan. 11. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. CW. 100 Watts. max. Rules:<https://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>. A short CW contest with everyone looking for North American stations.

N3ZP's Contest Corner

January 17 - January 18

North American QSO Party, SSB - 1800Z Jan. 17 - 0559Z Jan. 18, 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. SSB. 100 Watts max. Rules:<https://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>. Like last week's CW contest but this time SSB.

ARRL January VHF Contest - 1900Z Jan. 15 - 0359 Jan. 19. 50 MHz and up. All modes. (no repeaters). Rules:<https://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>. Work stations in as many grid squares as possible on any VHF/UHF band.

January 24 - January 26

CQ 160 Meter Contest, CW - 2200Z Jan. 24 - 2200Z Jan. 26. Worldwide. 160 Meters. CW. Rules:<http://www.cq160.com/rules.htm>. Work stations worldwide in your antenna will tune 160. January is often the best month on 160 with the lowest noise level.

Winter Field Day - 1600Z Jan. 24 - 2159Z Jan. 25. Worldwide, All bands except WARC (60, 30, 17 and 12 Meters). All modes. 100 Watts max. Rules:<https://www.winterfieldday.com/>. Join the Phil-Mont group at the cabin in Lake Nockamixon State Park, operate from a POTA site or just operate at home, There are classes for every type of activity. It's a very fun event.

January 1 - January 31

Winterheat Contest - 0000Z Jan. 1 - 2359Z Jan. 31. VHF/UHF. bands FM, C4FM. D-Star and DMR, simplex only. Rules:<https://hamactive.com/events/winterheat.php>. A month-long event to test out your simplex capability. Stay on the air after the Phil-Mont repeater nets and make some QSOs on multiple bands. A low key fun event.

That's my list for January. Take a break from the cold and get on the air. 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, January 1966...



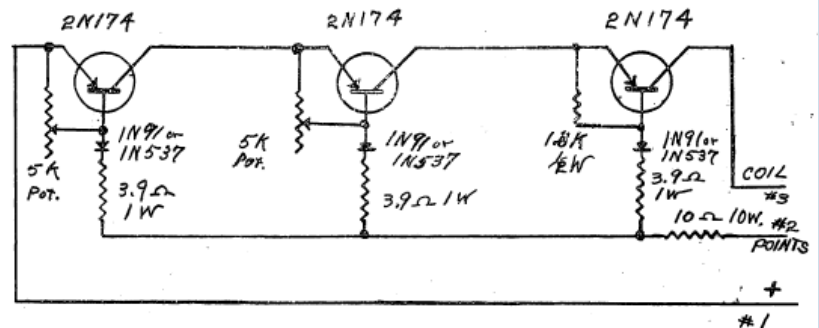
NETS

TIME

Ten-On-Ten	Sundays	1000-1100
Orange Juice	Weekdays	0700-0730
Scrambled Egg	Weekdays	0730-0830
Executive	Weekdays	0830-0900

Channel 1 (29.493 mc) is monitored daily from 0900-2400 for the benefit of mobiles in the Philadelphia and suburban area.

W3KDO TRANSISTORIZED IGNITION



TAKE TIME FOR 10 THINGS

Author Unknown

1. Take time to Work --
it is the price of success
2. Take time to Think --
it is the source of power
3. Take time to Play --
it is the secret of youth
4. Take time to Read --
it is the foundation of knowledge
5. Take time to Worship --
it is the highway of reverence and washes the dust of earth from our eyes.
6. Take time to Enjoy and Help Friends --
it is the source of happiness
7. Take time to Love --
it is the one sacrament of life
8. Take time to Dream --
it hitches the soul to the stars
9. Take time to Laugh --
it is the singing that helps with life's loads
10. Take time to Plan --
it is the secret of being able to have time to take time for the first nine things.



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

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Vice President: Greg KC3SMW

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