



# The Blurbs



*Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club*

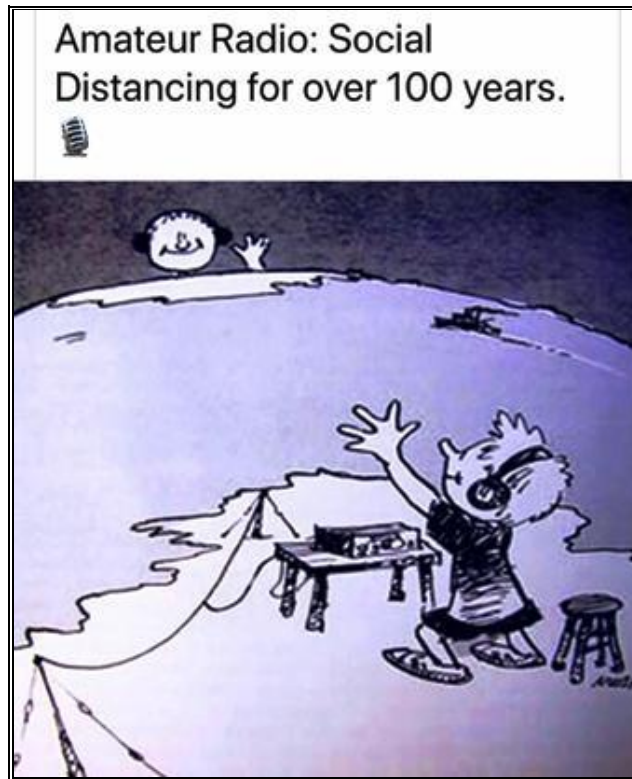
*71 Years of Public Service, 1949-2020*

Volume 71 Number 4

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

April 2020

***No Meetings Due to Coronavirus***



*Many Thanks to Brad, WB3BPI*

***Wash your hands!  
Don't touch your face! Don't be April Fooled!  
Keep the virus at bay!***

<p><i>The Blurb</i> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. <b>Copying and quoting</b> is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs.</p> <p>Requests should be sent to the Editor:  <b>Rick DeVigiliis ND3B@ARRL.net</b></p> <p><b>Subscriptions</b> are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer.</p> <p><b>Labels and mailing: KB3IV</b></p> <p><b>Submissions deadline:</b> All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.</p>	<p><b>Directors:</b>                  N3QV (22)                  K3RON (22)                  K2RSJ (22)                  WA3DSP (20)                  WU3I (20)                  KB2ERL (20)                  NC3U (A)                  W3RM                  (EMERITUS)</p>	<p><b>Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 404 Warminster, PA 18974</b>                  http://www.phil-mont.org                  Website: Eric N3QV &amp; Andrew KC2PMW</p> <p><b>For club information:</b> Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: KB3IV</p>	
<p><b>Sunday Morning Net Schedules</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2 Meter/ 70cm Net</b>..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater</li> <li>• <b>10-on-10 Net</b> ..... at 1030L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)</li> <li>• <b>75 meter Net</b> ..... at 1000L 3.993 MHz LSB</li> <li>• <b>ARES</b> at 2100L on the W3QV repeater</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Committees</b>                  Blurbs folding: KB3IV &amp; N3GLU                  Directory: KB3IV                  Field Day: KC2PMW                  Fusion Coord: NC3U</p>	<p>Internet: N3QV &amp; KC2PMW                  Membership: KB3IV                  Net Control: KB3IV</p>	<p>Program: W3AOK                  Refreshments: W3AOK                  Repeater: W3AOK</p>	<p>Scholarship: KB3IV                  Sunshine: N3GLU                  VE Program: NS3K                  Welcome: N3UBY                  Youth: KC2PMW</p>

**All visitors are welcome!**

The club meets at 7:00 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at Giant Supermarket, 315 York Rd, Willow Grove, PA  
 Maps and directions are available at [www.phil-mont.org](http://www.phil-mont.org).

**License Examinations** are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**  
 Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or [jmccloskey@msn.com](mailto:jmccloskey@msn.com) for the latest information.

**Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System**  
 Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: N3QV**  
**147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz C4FM Fusion digital**  
 Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R AllStar Node 47970  
**W3AA Trustee: N3QV**  
**W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV**

**The Officers**

**President: Greg Malone WA3GM Greg Malone wa3gm@yahoo.com**  
**Vice President: Jim Fisher AJ3DI kc3bra@gmail.com**  
**Treas: WB3DZZ George Gianios ggianios@verizon.net**  
**Secretary: W3AFV Chuck Farrell chuckfarrell@comcast.net**

# The Prez Sez ...



Hello Phil-Mont

I just arrived back home from FL over the past few days and now confined to the house most of the time as most of us are.

Florida was really nice this winter except for the pandemic that has now hit the whole country. While things were going crazy up here it seemed as if Florida had not clue what was happening.

I am very disappointed in the governor of Florida. I believe he along with local government dropped the ball big time with regard to this pandemic. While things were closing up here it was business as usual there up until the last week. IMHO as a law enforcement professional Restaurants, Beaches, etc should have been closed at least 3 weeks ago. It appears that they put MONEY ahead of public health and I am very disappointed in the local government. As of today beaches are still not closed in my area.

My remote operation worked really great during my stay. I was able to work some DX along with assuming Net Control Duties for a couple of Sundays on the PMRC 75 meter phone net when the XYL was not there.

For the safety of all of our members the March and April meetings will be cancelled. Hopefully we will be able to meet in May but that also may not happen. This is a fluid situation and changes on a day to day basis so all activities, testing, classes etc.

will be suspended until further notice. More information will be forthcoming on the nets, the Blurb and at any time on the club website.

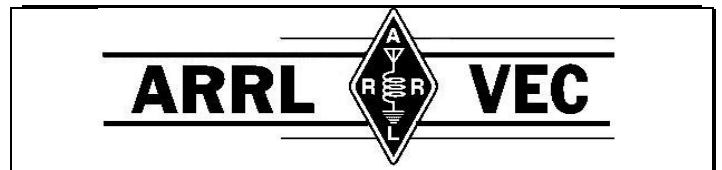
We will have to start preparing soon for Field Day. Although we are unsure if this is even going to happen we must be prepared just in case.

I would urge all of our members to take this pandemic seriously and take all the necessary precautions for you and your family to stay safe. Keep tuned to your local and national news and heed the warnings of the health care professionals.

Please all stay safe and WASH YOUR HANDS.....AND AGAIN....AND AGAIN

Thank you for your support.

*73, Greg WA3GM*



*The Thursday evening session is Canceled this month*

*As always, many thanks to our VE team!*

## *Phil-Mont Birthdays & Tidbytes*

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Mark Thomas - KC3DRE
- 05 Rob Moore – N2RM
- 06 Andrew Furlong KC2PMW
- Vincent Pisacane - WB3IDW
- 08 Jackie Chedeville (XYL W3GQD)

Joe Fitzmyer - KC3ECE  
 George Gianios - WB3DZZ  
 10 Michael Elmaleh - K3HIJ  
 12 Larry Bennett - NJ3Z  
 15 Kent Simmons- N3BKR)  
 16 Janet Souza - W3JLS  
 21 Michael Vincent N3TOX  
 Brad King - WB3BPI  
 22 Susan Hoch (XYL W3UI)  
 Jack Livezy - KC3EOO  
 25 Vicki Hollett (XYL WA2UAR)  
 26 Jim McCusker - K3YO  
 28 Gwen Patton - NG3P  
 30 Al Kaufmann - K3ZMJ

## **Digital Radio Converter**

By Woody Brem – K3YV

Digital radio is certainly gaining in popularity. Many hams would like to try digital radio, but there are good reasons that are holding back most hams. The problem is that there is no standard digital format. Rather, there are several formats, and they all want to be the standard. Unfortunately, digital radios are expensive. Worse, you need a separate radio for each of the digital formats. What is a ham to do? No one wants to spend many hundreds of dollars just to try each kind of digital radio.

Enter Corbomite Systems. Few people noticed their small tradeshow booth at the Florida Hamcation this year. Located near the huge and very busy FlexRadio setup, Corbomite Systems was virtually overlooked. This was very unfortunate, because I believe Corbomite is really on to something big. Corbomite, who is well known throughout the commercial world for their digital solutions to otherwise hard-to-solve radio communications problems, has just released a line of digital radio converters. These cost-effective converters will work with any analog radio to convert it to exact sounding digital formats. These converters produce audio that is indistinguishable from that of any digital radio.

Corbomite offers converters for any of the three popular digital formats: D-Star, Fusion-C4FM, and DMR. So far, only three converter models are available. The president and chief technical officer of Corbomite Systems, Dr. Apreal Phoul, said that their line of Digital-Universal-Modular-Backup (D.U.M.B.) converters will be available through all amateur radio outlets when Corbomite gets their production line ramped up to full capacity. Dr. Phoul also said, “We feel that these

D.U.M.B. converters will be especially useful for DMR type digital radio systems.”

Corbomite converters are easy to install and operate. Simply take the D.U.M.B. converter model that is specific to the type of digital service you want to use and squeeze the ends. Place the converter over the bridge of your nose and release the ends. The one-size-fits-all concept is perfect for all hams, large or small. The converter will gently, yet firmly, hold your nose throughout any normal length QSO. Then all you do is talk normally through your analog radio. Your voice, to the listener on the other end, will sound exactly like you are using a genuine digital radio.

## MEMBERSHIP STATS

-----  
 110 Full paid Members  
 10 Family Members  
 2 Youth members  
 1 Honorary Member

## From the Secretary

NO March Board Meeting

NO March General Meeting

NO Secretary's Report

**Chuck Farrell**  
 W3AFV

*And no meetings for the foreseeable future!*

No one on the other end will be able to tell the difference if you are using a real digital radio or a D.U.M.B. converter. It will sound exactly the same.



Corbomite is currently developing a D.U.M.B. converter, which will allow one converter unit to function for all digital modes. That will be welcome, since it will eliminate the need to carry a separate converter for each type of digital mode.

The retail price of a D.U.M.B. converter is \$9.95, with the DMR model costing one dollar more. The DMR model costs more because of the extra pinching force that is necessary to fully duplicate the DMR experience. Look for Corbomite ads in all amateur radio magazines.

*Author's note: When not using the D.U.M.B. converter, simply squeeze the ends and clamp it to the rubber ducky on your HT – a perfect way to store your converter and have it at hand, ready to use.*

Hi fellow Phil-Monters,

If any of you have a multi-band dipole (including 80 meters) and/or 30-50' of low-loss coax that you aren't using, I would be interested in borrowing or buying/trading for it after the Covid-19 crisis is over.

By the way, I am also interested in acquiring a deep cycle battery and trickle charger.

I also have the following to sell or trade:

- AmComm Clear Speech base noise reduction unit.
- Icom IC-V82, 2 Meter handi-talkie with two hand mikes, AC charger, extra battery, & battery case.
- Radio Shack Pro-2050, VHF/UHF, 300 channel programmable scanner.
- Icom AT-500 HF Auto Tuner - untested.
- Vintage Kenwood KR-3130 Analog Stereo Receiver. Works well; needs two replacement light bulbs.
- Vintage Sansui AU-101 Solid State Stereo Amplified. Low Power, works great, some veneer missing on trim.
- Vintage Pair Bose 2.2 Bookshelf speakers.
- Pair Sound Lab bookshelf stereo speakers.
- Pair JBL Northridge Series N26 stereo speakers.

73,

Frank  
W3MHP  
(267) 303-8819  
[frank.j.kohn@gmail.com](mailto:frank.j.kohn@gmail.com)

***April at Phil-Mont***

***Don't forget the ARES net on Sunday nights and the Digital net on Tuesday night***

- 5 Sun WA3GTL  
Palm Sunday
- 8 Wed General Meeting  
Passover Begins
- 10 Fri Good Friday
- 12 Sun KB3IV  
Easter
- 19 Sun W3MHP
- 26 Sun KC3DII

**For Sale**

***1/8" (290#) & 3/16" (380#) Dark Olive Drab Braided Cord · 100% Polyester/Dacron Knit Braided. Nice stuff! Tough and long lasting · UV Resistant and Low Stretch Proudly Made in the U.S.A.! Contact Steve WU3I at wu3i@arrl.net or 215-605-6074***

Yaesu Ft 2000 completely stock, hand microphone, internal power supply, manuals. From the estate of W3UY Larry. Contact Steve WU3I at wu3i@arrl.net or 2156056074 cell

\$1500.00. Fully tested and working flawlessly.

Stephen Hoch WU3I

For Sale

Yaesu FT-450D Transceiver 160-6 100w  
Yaesu FP-1023 Power Supply  
Both items never removed from original box  
\$500.

This is a current model. Check out the online prices and see what you save.

Contact Ed KB3IV [kb3iv@arrl.net](mailto:kb3iv@arrl.net) or 215-520- 5166