



The Blurb

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

Volume 78, Number 8 — www.phil-mont.org

August 2026

PMRC Summertime



PREZ SEZ...

Not much to report this month, but we did have a great POTA-Mania event that was well attended. During the event we operated under the club call W3EM and tested newly created Field Day logging software by Greg, KC3SMW. It worked great and will undergo a few more mods before it's ready for prime time at Field Day. Great job, Greg!

Kimberton Hamfest

There are several hamfests coming up in August, most notably Kimberton, hosted by MARC (Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club) — always a great local hamfest. Check the upcoming hamfest pages for others coming up in the region.

Net Control Summit & Dinner

We'll also be holding our Third Annual PMRC Net Control Summit and Dinner on August 18th, where we'll discuss where we've been, where we are, and where we're going. This is a great way for the club to treat our NCOs to dinner and honor the gift of their time and dedication to keeping all our nets on the air. There isn't a day of the week that goes by without at least one net on our repeater. A sincere thanks to all of our wonderful net control operators — great job to all.

International Lighthouse Weekend

And let's not forget: Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club will again celebrate International Lighthouse Weekend by operating W3EM portable at the Turtle Rock Lighthouse along the Schuylkill River Trail, Saturday and Sunday, August 15th and 16th.

Field Day 2026 Results Are In

The official ARRL Field Day entry is in, and it's a strong one. Operating as 6A under W3EM (with W3AA as our GOTA station call), Phil-Mont logged 727 total contacts — 171 CW, 24 Digital, and 532 Phone — good for a preliminary score of 3,224 points. Forty members participated, and we ran on 100% emergency power (generator and battery), which alone banked us 600 bonus points.

We also picked up bonus points for our public location and information table, a site visit from an invited served agency, youth participation, a staffed safety officer, social media coverage, our GOTA station, and submitting the entry via the web — 1,380 bonus points in total.

Thanks to Charlie, K3NOP, for captaining Field Day again this year and for handling the official submission to ARRL.



Rich Roth, AA3RC

73, Rich, AA3RC — President, Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

THE RADIO AMATEUR'S CODE

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, and the IARU Radio Society, 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.

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

Every Monday–Friday, 5 to 6 PM
VHF Repeater, Allstar, or Echolink

Sunday Morning Nets

0930 ET: VHF Repeater, Allstar, or Echolink
1000 ET: 75 Meter Net — 3.993 MHz LSB ± QRM

PHILADELPHIA ARES

Sundays 8:00 PM ET on VHF Repeater, Allstar, or Echolink.
All licensed operators welcome • PHLARES.org

OTHER NETS

OMIK Net: Saturdays 11 AM
PASTA Net: Mondays 7:30 PM

CLUB REPEATERS

VHF: 147.030 MHz (+offset, 91.5 PL)

Remote VHF inputs:

Bucks Co / Lawrenceville — PL 88.5

Delaware Co West/South — PL 100.0

South Jersey — PL 82.5

UHF: 444.80 MHz

Yaesu System Fusion / WiresX

Echolink: W3QV-R • Allstar: Node 47970

Simplex: 147.510 MHz PL 91.5 TSQ

CQ! CQ! CQ!

Calling CQ for New Net Control Operators!

DENN — DIGITAL EDUCATION NET

DENN is on summer hiatus. See you in September! Watch Groups.io for details.

NET LOGGER

Net Control opens netlogger.org and calls for check-ins.
Members appear in rotation order as they check in.

AUGUST SUNDAY NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

Date	Net Control
2-Aug	N3QV
9-Aug	KE3QB
16-Aug	KB3SJS
23-Aug	W3UP
30-Aug	WA3GM

CLUB BUSINESS

THIS MONTH'S BIRTHDAYS

Callsign	Name	Date
KC3SZB	Tom Aiken	6-Aug
N3DGD	Dave Devanzo	14-Aug
NS9G	Stephen P Getson	14-Aug
KC3UTO	Jeffrey M Rodgers	28-Aug
AB3RV	Mac McLaughlin	29-Aug
WA3ADI	Vince Buono Jr	30-Aug

Want your birthday read on the nets? Update your info at hamclubonline.com

NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING

No General Meeting in July or August
Next meeting: Wednesday, September 9th
Enjoy your summer! Topic TBD — watch Groups.io for details.

PRESENTATION

Topic TBD

PHIL-MONT MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

August 2026

Member Category	Count
REGULAR Membership	204
Honorary	3
Board Member	7
Officer	4
Total	218

218
TOTAL
MEMBERS



Philadelphia ARES

Join the A.R.E.S. Training Net

Every Sunday evening at 2000 (8:00 PM) on 147.030 MHz

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service trains licensed amateur radio operators to provide radio communications as a public service in disaster situations. All licensed operators are welcome to join.

Join our [Groups.io](#) • Visit [PHLARES.org](#)

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

MARK YOUR 2026 CALENDARS! Upcoming Club Radio Activities

August 15-16th	Lighthouse Weekend
September 12th	POTAMania
October 2-3	OCTPOTAFEST (leave 4th at 11 AM)

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

JULY POTA MANIA FIELD REPORT

It Was A Big One

By Mike Bryan, KC3UKC

On Saturday July 11 we met for the 4th POTA MANIA of the 2026 season, and it was a big one. The usual crowd of early shift activators gathered at the pavilion as soon as the gates of the park opened.

Contrary to our normal free-for-all style of operation we had a few objectives that we were going to attempt, which were mostly fueled by discussions of how we can improve our preparedness for Field Day 2027 (it will be here before you know it).

First on the list was to attempt a club style activation of the park using the club call W3EM. The second item was to test out a new logging software written by KC3SMW that would allow us to track operators of the club call during an event and allow real-time duplicate checking during multi-operator events.

Although I don't think we will make a regular habit out of activating POTA using the club call, it made for a truly great activation with W3EM logging a total of 93 contacts across CW, Digital and Phone throughout this one day event. The logging software also worked great and with a few minor updates is looking like a great option for Field Day next year.

As far as the event itself, we somehow managed another month of mostly beautiful weather for the event. The morning was mostly sunny and quite humid but that did not stop anyone from setting up their antennas and getting on the air. In fact, there was a point during the event that I lost track of how many stations had been set up throughout the day. I believe that this was possibly our best attended POTA MANIA so far. At last count I had made note of close to 20 club members and friends stopping by throughout the day. As the afternoon wore on most folks started to head home for the day and by 3:00PM we were down to just a few still hanging out at the pavilion when the sky let loose with heavy rain, lightning and thunder.

At the time I was still on the air trying to manage a final contact to complete my own activation, but had decided once we saw lightning and heard thunder that it was time to disconnect, and wait out the storm before taking down my antenna. I had 9 contacts in the log before the storm began and I would like to thank Jon KD3AIP for the 10th and final contact on 2m Simplex to validate my own activation.

It's adventures like this that make portable operating fun, and if you missed July POTA MANIA you missed a great one so make sure you're there for the next one!

We won't be back at the park until September, but don't forget next month is Light House Weekend (August 15th and 16th) so make sure you get out there and get on the air with us!

See you at the Park, de KC3UKC, Mike



JULY POTA MANIA



JULY POTA MANIA



JULY POTA MANIA



PMRC INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND, AUGUST 15-16, 2026

Super Fun Event

By Bob Swayne, K3NIE

Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club will again celebrate International Lighthouse Weekend by operating W3EM portable at the Turtle Rock Lighthouse along the Schuylkill River Trail, Saturday & Sunday, August 15 and 16th. The lighthouse is the last building along Boathouse Row on Kelly Drive, the eastern shore of the Schuylkill River, Philadelphia. Our station will be adjacent to the Schuylkill River bike trail which is very busy on summer weekends with cyclists, walkers and runners.



The setup will basically be a POTA type station operating mostly 20 and 40 meter SSB and CW. 120VAC is available from the Lighthouse. Setup will start BOTH DAYS at 8:00 a.m. and we will operate through mid-afternoon. We're looking for volunteers to participate and give whatever time you can. Free 3-hour parking is available along Kelly Drive in the morning but quickly fills. There are no parking restrictions along Sedgley and Lemon Hill Drives.

This event is not a contest but of course we want to make as many contacts as we can. Our purpose is to promote Ham Radio, Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club and public awareness of lighthouses and their need for preservation and restoration. And at the same time, enjoy ourselves playing radio while engaging the public. We'll have company on the air. Typically, over 400 lighthouses participate from dozens of countries. And bring your HT as well to demonstrate how repeaters work.

Check out the History of the Turtle Rock Lighthouse at: <https://www.lighthousefriends.com/light.asp?ID=856> International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend website: www.illw.net

For questions/comments, contact: Bob, K3NIE Email: swaynerb@gmail.com

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

The Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club presents the



Sunday, August 9th, 2026

Kimberton Fire Co. Fairgrounds

762 Pike Springs Rd. (Rt. 113) at Firehouse Lane, Phoenixville, Pa.

(40.12748° N, 75.56720° W)

Admission: Buyers 8:00 AM / Sellers 7:00 AM

\$10 – Admission (free admission for unlicensed spouse and children of licensed Hams)

***Tailgate Space:**

\$10 – Admission

\$10 – Car width space/head in parking

No reserved tailgate spaces

***Indoor Tables:**

\$ 10 – Admission

\$ 10 each for 1 - 4 tables

\$ 8 each for 5 or more

*For updates and info, contact Bob Palin, N3JIZ, Hamfest Chair, at (610) 420-1535
or hamfest@marc-radio.org, or visit our website: www.marc-radio.org*

- ✓ Rain or shine
Indoor & Outdoor Facilities!
- ✓ VE tests at 10 a.m.! Register by contacting
Brian Kelly at bjkelly45@gmail.com.
- ✓ QSL Card checking on site!
- ✓ Food Vendor on site!
- ✓ Lots of great door prizes from over 20 vendors!

Talk In: 145.130/- and
147.060/+ CTCSS 131.8

Food and beverage sales
by approved vendors only

**Vendor set up starts Sunday 8/9
at 7:00 AM. No early setup
without prior authorization from
the Hamfest Chair!**

Indoor table reservations

(LIMITED ELECTRICAL) –

Contact: Bob Palin, N3JIZ,
Hamfest Chair, at 610-420-1535



UPCOMING HAMFESTS

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA HAMFEST

Presented by Clearfield County Amateur Radio Club

www.clearfieldcountyarcc.net/hamfest

Swap Meet | Meet n Greet | Rag Chew | Exam Session



WHEN

Sunday September 13 2026
8AM to 12 PM

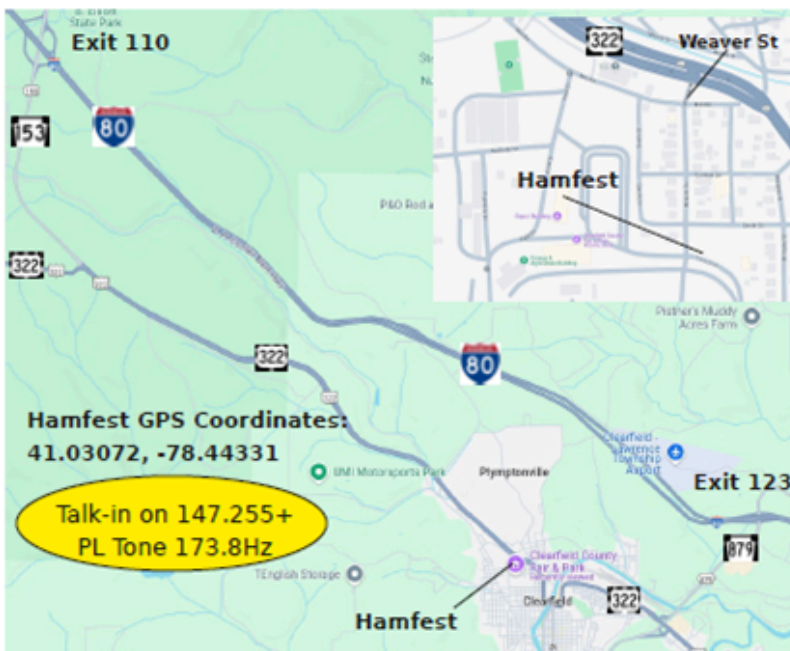
WHERE

DOOR PRIZES

Clearfield County Fair Grounds

Community Hall Building and surrounding grounds

Use Weaver Street Exit on US 322 at Clearfield



Hamfest GPS Coordinates:
41.03072, -78.44331

Talk-in on 147.255+
PL Tone 173.8Hz

CLEARFIELD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB HAMFEST COMMITTEE

Rich Brink N3RBJ
rich.brnik@gmail.com
814-571-5866

John Szwarc N3SPW
johnszwarc@gmail.com
(814)553-5649

Tim Lumadue N3PUL
tlumadue176@gmail.com
(814)761-5002

FEES

Parking: FREE

General Admission: \$5*

Inside Vendor Table: \$10

Tailgate Spaces: \$5

*Active Duty Military/Emergency in uniform/
under 12 free.

Reserve and pay for your table ahead of
time: hamfest@clearfieldcountyarcc.net

EXAM SESSION

~~NO FEE FOR EXAM~~

Begins at 11 AM

(Reservations preferred but not required)

Contact: Mary Lewis N3UDN

E-mail: jlms@windstream.net

Sponsor: Ridgeway ARC/Laurel VEC

You will need:

- Your FRN
- Photo ID or student ID
- Email address
- Non-programable calculator (optional)
- ***If testing for General or Extra bring your
current license card issued by the FCC***

NOTE: Reasonable accommodations honored.
Advance notice is appreciated.



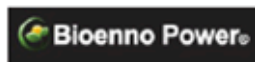
EVENT SCHEDULE

- 6 AM Set-up Dealers & Tailgating
- 8 AM Hamfest opens
- 8 AM ARES® Meeting
- 9 AM SKYWARN Spotter Training
- 10 AM ARRL Atlantic Division Director &
Section Manager
- 11AM VE Testing
- 11:30AM Prize Drawings
- 12 PM Close

CONCESSIONS

Food - Drinks - Snacks

OUR SPONSORS



UPCOMING HAMFESTS

READING RADIO CLUB HAMFEST

Saturday, August 29, 2026 • Rain or Shine

Heritage Park, Sinking Spring, PA 19608

Across from Sunoco and Dairy Queen

EVENT HOURS

Hamfest opens: 8:00 a.m.

Vendors / Sellers welcome: 7:00 a.m.

ADMISSION

\$5.00 per adult • \$8.00 per tailgater

No admission fee for those taking license exams, Radio Amateurs under 18 yrs. of age, unlicensed spouses, or children under 18 yrs. of age.

DOOR PRIZES

Door prizes awarded at intervals. No need to be present to win.

FCC / ARRL LICENSE EXAMS

Exams start at 8:30 a.m. inside the Freight Station.

Cost is \$15.00 (adults 18+ • under 18 \$5.00).

Pre-register at:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/RRC/all?startDate=2026-07-15>Questions: Contact **Stuart Higgins, W2SLH** — exam@w2slh.com or 484-339-3456.

TAILGATING

\$8.00 per 4' x 8' space at your car (includes 1 admission).

Bring your own table. No indoor tables.

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS

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

TALK-IN

RRC Repeater **146.91 / .31** (CTCSS 131.8)

DIRECTIONS

GPS: 992 Clematis St., Sinking Spring, PA 19608

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

Watch for HAMFEST signs. ARRL-sanctioned hamfest. Free parking available. Handicap facilities.

Reading Radio Club, Inc. w3bn.rrc@gmail.comPublic contact: Jim Nicholas, W3ITH • hamfest@w3bn.org • 610-781-5508

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

TICKETS

Admission

\$10 donation per person
Kids under 16 FREE

Indoor vendor tables

\$20 donation each (admission separate)

Outdoor tailgating spaces

\$10 donation each (admission separate)

Pre-purchase admission tickets, tables and spaces via the online store.

www.carafest.org

Information

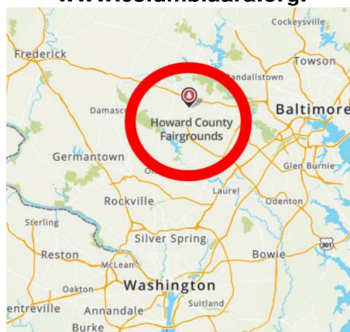
carafest@columbiaara.org

Talk-in frequencies

147.390 +0.6 MHz
147.135 +0.6 MHz
PL 156.7 Hz

**CARA Fest is sponsored by the
Columbia Amateur Radio**

Association (K3CUJ),
www.columbiaara.org.



Off of MD RT 32
And Interstate 70

Parking

Plentiful free parking is available for general attendees within short walking distance of the pedestrian gate. Please note that attendee parking is on grass with some moderate slopes, and many of the walking areas are gravel, so plan accordingly.

Handicap parking is available — ask at the gate when you arrive.



October 4, 2026
7am-noon
RAIN OR SHINE

Howard County Fairgrounds
2210 Fairgrounds Rd
West Friendship, MD 21794

*30 mins from Baltimore or Frederick
80 mins from DC*

SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to change

6am

VENDOR/TAILGATER SETUP

7am-noon

VENDOR/TAILGATER SALES

CLUB EXHIBITS

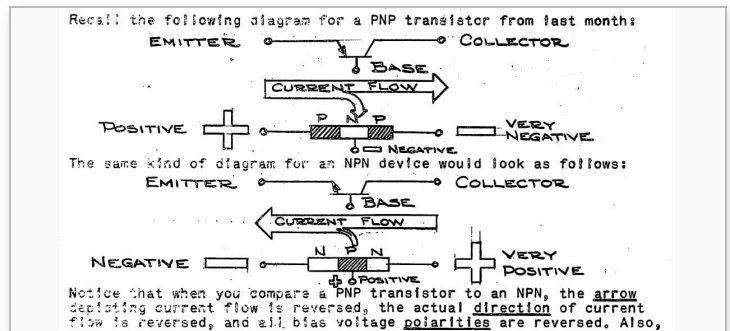
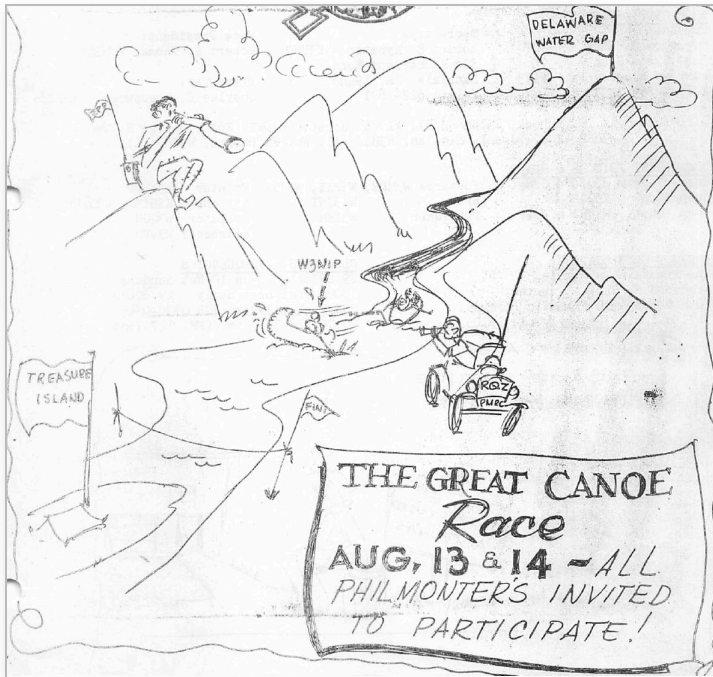
DXCC CARD CHECKING

9am-10:30am

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING

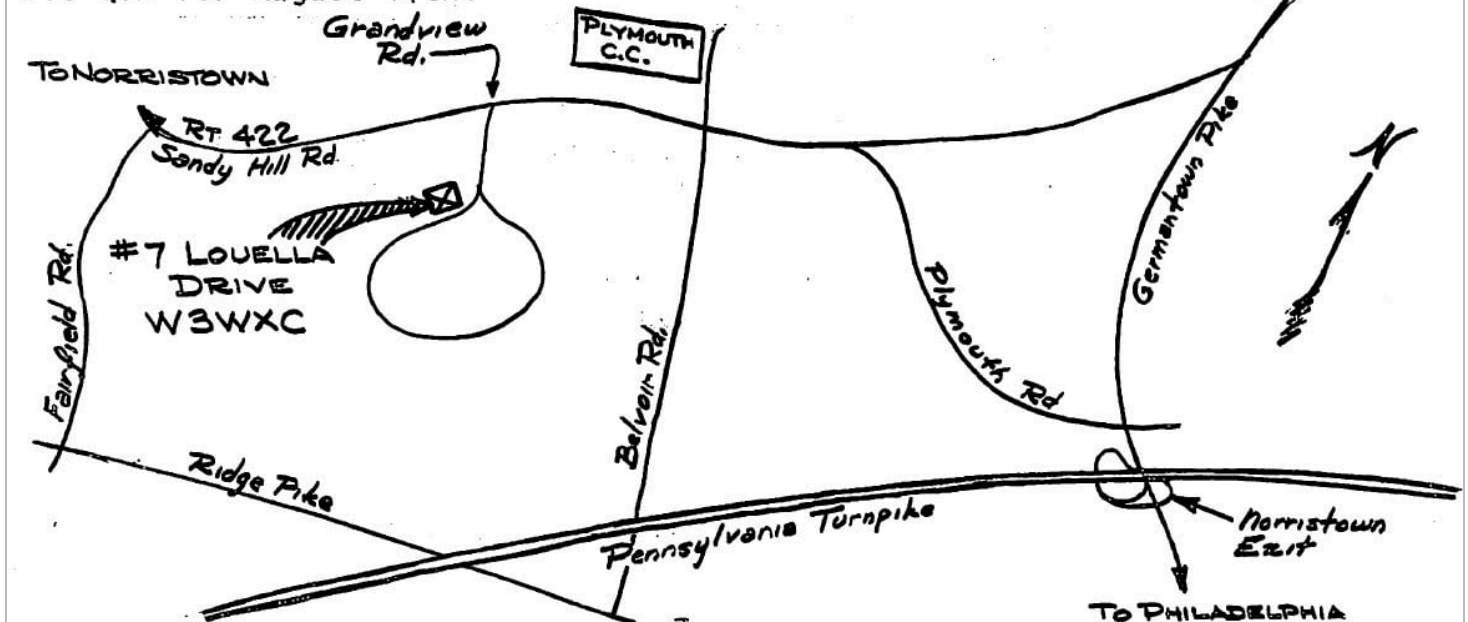
FROM THE PMRC ARCHIVE...

From the PMRC Archive — August 1966



DIRECTIONS TO AUGUST MID-MONTH

Thanks to Dick Klein W3WXC, this map is presented as a guide to his QTH for August 17th:



60 years ago Dick, W3UP (then W3WXC) was hosting club meetings at his house.
So glad he's still with us!

PMRC OFFICERS FOR 2026

Title	Name	Callsign
President	Rich	AA3RC
Vice President	Greg	KC3SMW
Treasurer	Jim	NS3K
Secretary	Dave	K3DFG

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 retro receivers?
 Something for sale?

Send your submissions to the editor!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Callsign	Name	Term
KC3GJX	Jeff	(27)
K3NOP	Charlie	(27)
KC3UKC	Mike	(27)
W3AOK	Bill	(A)
N3VIP	Tony	(26)
N3PEG	Peg	(26)
N3ZP	Phil	(26)

BLURB EDITOR

Richard Roth — AA3RC

Daniel Wagaman — W4GMN, SK
Editor Emeritus

CLUB WEBSITE

www.phil-mont.org

**CLUB EMAIL LIST & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

groups.io/g/philmont

Public Service Since 1949

PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB — W3QV