

# **THE AERO AERIAL**



**1946 - 2006**  
**SIXTY YEARS OF PROMOTING AMATEUR RADIO**  
**In Eastern Baltimore County**



The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Volume 3 Issue 4  
April 2006

Editor Frank Stone AC3P

## Officers

Bob Landis	WA3SWA	President	Repeater	Phil Hock W3VRD
Frank Stone	AC3P	Vice-President	VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
Joe Miko	WB3FMT	Recording Secretary	Public Service	Frank Stone AC3P
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary	ECOMMS	Joe Miko WB3FMT
Al Alexander	K3ROJ	Treasurer	Contests	Bob Landis WA3SWA
Eric Carl	KB3JDE	Property Mgr		

## Committees

#### **ABOUT THE AERO AMATUER RADIO CLUB**

Meetings: First and Third Wednesdays at 7:30 pm at Coffman's Diner  
(Middle River and Orem's Rd.)

Nets: See Local Area Net Schedule

Repeaters: W3PGA (147.24 MHz - / 449.575 MHz -)

WEBSITE: <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/w3pga/>

## **Net Reports**

2 Meter Net: WB3FMT (NCS) AC3P KB3KRW KB3JDE K3YGC K3ROJ

10 Meter Net: AC3P (NCS) W3JEH KB3KRW WA3TAD K3ROJ

#### **LOCAL AREA NETS**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Frequency (MHz)</b>	<b>NET NAME</b>
Daily	9 – 10 am	147.03	ORIOLE Net
Daily	6 – 6:30 pm	3.920	Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Daily	6:30 – 7 pm	146.670	Baltimore Traffic Net
Daily	7 pm and 10 pm	3.643	Maryland/DC/Delaware Traffic Net
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County <u>RACES</u> Net
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed.	8 pm	28.445	AERO ARC Net
4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	8 pm	147.240	AERO ARC Net
5 <sup>th</sup> Wed.	8 pm	449.575	AERO ARC Net

## **Silent Key Night Contest Results**

<b>Call</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Points</b>
K3ROJ	Single Op	1054
WA3SWA	Single Op	512
W3PGA	Multi-op	4096
W3SSA	Multi-op	4232

## **Western Union Telegram Service Buyout NTS Hiring**

News arrived last month that Western Union has ceased its telegram service after over 150 years of operation.

An unreliable source claims that the ARRL National Traffic Systems has bought the rights to send telegrams anywhere in the U.S. and Canada. This source also said that the NTS is looking for thousands of CW operators with bicycles to ensure prompt delivery of RADIOGRAMS.

Interested parties in the Maryland area may apply to the ARRL Section Traffic Manager.

## Emergency Communications



WB3FMT and KB3JDE brought up a new ECOMM site at CCBC Essex for the February 14 drill. AC3P joined Joe and Eric at the monthly RACES planning meeting that was held at the Baltimore County Emergency Operations Center on February 21.

For the March 14 COMMEX there are plans to bring up Franklin Square, CCBC Essex, St. Joseph's Hospital, the Health Department and Shepard Pratt sites.

A meeting was held for new RACES operators at Franklin Square Hospital on February 28. Thirty new operators were in attendance. Another meeting will be scheduled at the Public Safety building for April 4<sup>th</sup>. Details are not yet available.

## VE Report

Congratulations to Doug, KB3KRW, on being accredited as an ARRL Volunteer Examiner. We look forward to Doug's participation in the AERO Testing Program.

Next test session is at the North Point Library on March 18.

## Radio Merit Badge Program Completed



Frank, AC3P has finished presenting a six week course for the Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge for the Lightning Patrol of Troop 355 in Essex. The boys learned general concepts of what radio is and how radio waves are sent. They also learned about the components necessary to build a radio, different radio services, phonetics, Morse Code, and Q signals. The course began on January 12 with a QSO between AC3P and Joe, WB3FMT via the 449.575 Mhz. repeater and concluded on February 23 with a CW QSO from W3PGA/3 at the K of C Hall and Pat, AC3F at the home QTH.

Ten Scouts in all completed the requirements for the Radio Merit Badge.

## And the Winner is.....

The results are in from the annual club contest. Bob ND3D took first. As a result Bob will gets first prize of organizing the contest for 2007.

### 2006 Aero Contest Results

ND3D – 425 points  
K3ROJ – 134 points  
KB3KRW – 126 points.

## Solar Minimum Reached ? It's all uphill from here.



*Courtesy Mt. Essex Observatory*

Solar scientists have noted that February boasted the longest period of consecutive days without sunspots. It appears that we are at the end of Cycle 23 and awaiting the start of Cycle 24.

Computer models have predicted that Cycle 24's peak in about 2012 should be fifty percent stronger than the previous cycle. If this prediction bears out, there will be a much greater potential for solar flares that may cause electrical grid blackouts, disrupt communications, and even damage orbiting satellites.

On the up-side, radio propagation for the HF bands will be greatly improved and possible F2 skip will be running on 6 meters.

We should get ready for a lot of radio fun in the coming 6 years.

## April 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 EDT begins	3	4	5 Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm	6	7	8
9	10	11 RACES Commex 146.67Mhz 7:30 pm	12 10 meter Net 28.445 Mhz. 8 pm.	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm	20	21	22
23 York Hamfest <a href="http://www.yorkhamfest.org">http://www.yorkhamfest.org</a>	24	25	26 2 meter net 147.24 Mhz.	27	28	29
30						