

The Aero Aerial

*Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
Middle River Maryland*



Special points of interest:

- Field Day is the ARRL Annual Event to test our readiness to operate in the field during an emergency.
- FD is also a time to get together and have some on-the-air fun.

Get Ready For Field Day 2008

It's June. The sun is high in the sky. The trees and plants are in full bloom.

At a sleepy camp in Northern Baltimore County the antennas will soon be reaching the sky.

Field Day 2008 will again be held by Aero at Camp Genyara from Friday June 27th through Sunday June 29th.

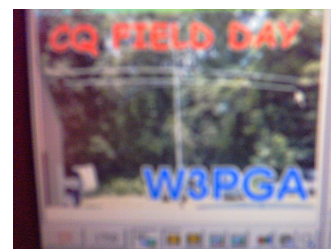
Everyone is invited to come join the fun. The setup crew usually shows up after 3 p.m. Friday afternoon to get the buildings ready. A couple of antennas are put up for some overnight rag-chew fun. Last year there were even movies and telescopes for stargazing!

Serious setup begins on Saturday morning and it's off to the races at 2 p.m. local time for the start of Field Day.

Operations continue for 24 hours, making as many QSOs as we can until the final whistle blows at 2 p.m. on Sunday.

This year Aero will again be joined by The Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society. We will operate W3PGA as 3A and also have a GOTA station AE3RO.

There will be opportunities for everyone to get on the air on most of the HF bands as well as 6 and 2 meters. We will operate



Field Day SSTV Transmission
from Camp Genyara

various modes including CW, Voice and Digital.

Best of all there will be food.

So come up to Camp Genyara and join the fun.

Directions to the camp are on the back page of this issue.

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Baltimore County Antenna Code Discussed

Aero had a visitor at the meeting on May 7th.

Tom Coates, N3IJ, who is the Legislative Liaison for the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club came to Coffmans to bring the Aero Club up to speed on proposed

changes in the county zoning ordinances regarding amateur radio towers.

Tom outlined the problems that Bud Goversdale, W3LL, encountered when erecting his tower in northern Baltimore County and how everything

hinged on the interpretation of the existing code.

Tom was asking for members to contact their county councilman to support changes in the code.

Go to www.baltarc.org for the new text.

May a Busy Month For ECOMMS



With the Hurricane Season a month away, May has been a busy month for those involved in Emergency Communications.

On May 6th Baltimore County held a drill called "Hurricane Zoe" in which agencies in charge of setting up shelters were testing their skills.

RACES operators were included in this exercise and Frank AC3P was sent along with other ama-

teurs to set up an amateur radio station at the Turner's Station Senior Center which served as the mock shelter.

The exercise ran from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and all county agencies were able to evaluate their procedures and make adjustments before faced with another Isabel type event.

Later that evening Frank and Joe WB3FMT attended a class held by NOAA regarding flooding. This class was held at the

Bowleys Quarters VFD. During the class different procedures for sending flood reports via SKYWARN were discussed.

On Tuesday May 13th the regular monthly RACES drill was held. Many Aero members were involved. Joe WB3FMT covered Sheppard-Pratt Hospital. Doug, AI3G manned the county Health Department. Pat AC3F and Frank AC3P were deployed to Franklin Square Hospital.

Hurricane season starts June 1.

Samuel F. B. Morse Saves The Day



The story goes that the first Morse Code Transmission took place from Washington to Baltimore in 1844. In that transmission was the text "What hath God wrought?"

One Hundred and Fifty-four years later Morse Code was again heard in Baltimore. It was the sound of SOS being tapped on an elevator emergency bell at the Maryland Science Center.

It seems that two ham radio operators, whose names will not be mentioned to prevent further embarrassment, were stuck between the third and fourth floors. Attempts to call for help via cell phone and land-line telephone had failed.

The only recourse was to sound the emergency bell. Even that got no response until one of the ham operators decided to try

sending SOS.

The odd-sounding pattern quickly got a response. After several attempts to get the elevator doors open failed, a call was placed to 911.

Rescue One arrived to free the hapless hams.

Many thanks to Mr. Morse and his fabulous code.

Net Reports - Check-ins

| 2 Meter Net: | 440 Net: | 10 Meter Net: | 6 Meter Blue Moon Net |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| WB3FMT (NCS) | WB3FMT(NCS) | WB3FMT (NCS) | WB3FMT (NCS) |
| AC3P | AI3G | W3JEH | KA3SNY |
| K3ROJ | AC3P | W3VRD | AI3G |
| AI3G | | AI3G | W3VRD |
| KA3SNY | | KA3SNY | K3YGC/m |
| | | | AC3P |

CW: The Original Text Messaging

Since the advent of the cell phone, the younger generation has developed a method of sending short texts to each other in lieu of actually talking on the phone.

As a way to cut down on the characters sent with each message and thereby keep costs down, the younger set has developed many abbreviations for standard phrases. Such short-cuts from e-mail as LOL, ROFL, BTW OMG, etc.

Little does today's texter know

that this concept was developed by their great great grandfathers.

Back in the days of landline telegraphy, these oldtimers invented their own form of texting in order to chat between telegraph stations. Many of these abbreviations found their way on the airwaves as telegraphy was introduced to radio.

One can hear them on the amateur CW bands today. A short list follows:

CUL – See you later

73 – best wishes

88 – love and kisses

AGN – Again

GM – Good Morning

GA – Good Afternoon

UR – Your

R – are

BK – Break

SK – Sign off

There are many more. As the reader can see, there's nothing new under the Sun.



Station Activities

K3ROJ is working on this season's crops. KB3JDE is mending a sore thumb. WB3FMT is testing OTIS reliability.

AC3F is looking forward to summer vacation from school. W3VRD is out with the fleet on maneuvers and should have a whale of a tale when he returns.

AC3P was seen playing bumper cars on Eastern Blvd. W3JEH is practicing the side step two step during the club election season.

ND3D is jazzing it up with his horn. AI3G is fine tuning the FD antenna layouts for Genyara. Doug also completed construction of his new Elecraft CW Transceiver. The Aerial awaits his product review.

Public Service

There are a couple public service opportunities coming up over the June and July.

First is the MS Bike Tour on June 7 – 8 to be held at Slaisbury University on the Eastern Shore.

This event is sponsored by BRATS. If you want to volunteer,

contact Bob, WA3SWA or Ian N3CVA by email to n3cva@hotmail.com.

Ian is also looking for help with the Towson Fourth of July Parade.

The Candidates ?

In the tradition of publications endorsing candidates for office The Aerial submits fpr your consideration the following suggestions for club officers for 2008-2009.

All Aboard!



VOTE FOR CHANGE



WB3FMT FOR PRESIDENT



VOTE FOR CHANGE



AI3G For Vice President



Vote For The Man With The Change



W3JDF For Treasurer



Vote For Change



KB3KRV FOR Recording Secretary



Keep Those Letters Coming



AC3F For Correspondence Secretary



He's Got The Goods



W3JEH For Property Manager



June 2008

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 <i>Meeting Coffmans</i> | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 <i>Manassas Hamfest</i> | 9 | 10 | 11 <i>10 Meter Net</i> | 12 | 13 | 14 <i>ARRL VHF Contest</i> |
| 15 <i>Frederick Hamfest</i> | 16 | 17 | 18 <i>Meeting Coffmans</i> | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 <i>2 Meter Net</i> | 26 | 27 <i>Field Day Prep</i> | 28 <i>Field Day Genyara</i> |
| 29 <i>Field Day Genyara</i> | 30 | | | | | |

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://www.aeroarc.us>

Officers

Frank Stone AC3P
Bob Landis WA3SWA
Joe Miko WB3FMT
Pat Stone AC3F
Warren Hartman W3JDF
Ron Distler W3JEH

President
Vice-President
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer
Property Mgr

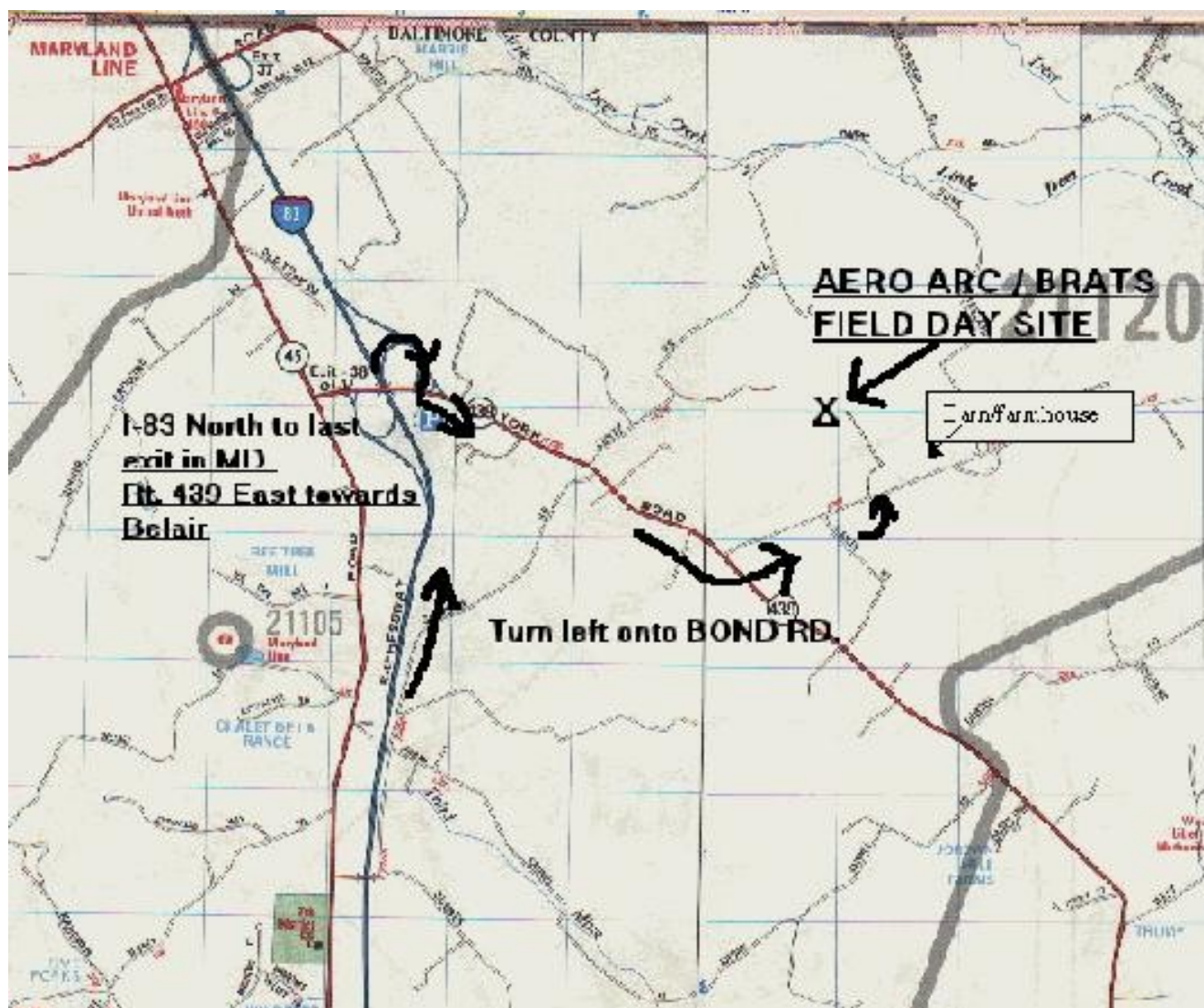
VE Testing
Repeater
Public Service
ECOMMS
Contests
Trustee
Webmaster

Committees

Pat Stone AC3F
Phil Hock W3VRD
Frank Stone AC3P
Joe Miko WB3FMT
Bob Landis WA3SWA
Frank Stone AC3P
Al Alexander K3ROJ

Local Area Nets

| Day | Time | Frequency (MHz) | NET NAME |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Daily | 9 – 10 am | 147.03 | ORIOLE Net |
| Daily | 6 – 6:30 pm | 3.820 | 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 nd Tues | 7:30 pm | 146.670 | Baltimore County <u>RACES</u> COMMEX |
| 2 nd Wed. | 8 pm | 28.445 | AERO ARC Net |
| 4 th Wed | 8 pm | 147.240 | AERO ARC Net |
| 5 th Wed. | 8 pm | 449.575 | AERO ARC Net |



Directions

- From Baltimore, take I 83 North to Exit 36, Route 439 East.
- Take 439 east approximately 1 mile to BOND RD.
- Turn left onto BOND RD.
- Take BOND RD. approximately 1/2 mile to a dirt road on the left. (If you come to a barn and farm-house on the left, you have gone too far.)
- Turn left onto the dirt road; follow it through the field and through a grove of tall pine trees. The pine trees have created a tunnel over the road. The Field Day site is at the end of the pine trees.