

# **THE AERO AERIAL**



*Field Day 2002 TEN YEARS???*

The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, Md  
Volume 9 Issue 6  
June 2012

Editor Frank Stone AC3P

## Officers

Joe Miko	WB3FMT	President	Repeater
Bob Venanzi	ND3D	Vice-President	VE Testing
Lou Kordek	KB3LJF	Recording Secretary	Public Service
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary	Webmaster
Warren Hartman	W3JDF	Treasurer	Trustee
Ron Distler	W3JEH	Resource Coordinator	Club Nets Contests

## Committees

Phil Hock W3VRD
Pat Stone AC3F
Bob Landis WA3SWA
Al Alexander K3ROJ
Frank Stone AC3P
Joe Miko WB3FMT
Bob Venanzi ND3D

## **ABOUT THE AERO AMATEUR 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 -)  
W3JEH (223.84 MHz -)

## LOCAL AREA NETS

Day	Time	Frequency (MHz)	NET NAME
Daily	9 – 10 am	147.33	ORIOLE Net
Daily	6 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 <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

### Aero Net Reports

April

**10 Meters: WB3FMT (NCS) KB3EK AC3P W3VRD J0VE**

**2 Meter: WB3FMT (NCS) AC3P W3VRD KB3EK KB3LJF**

### Station Activities

**WA3SWA** has a new Wouxon HT. **ND3D** is on the FAR Scholarship Committee. **K3ROJ** is cultivating the veggies again this year. **AC3F** anxiously awaiting the end of another school year. Congrats to new Extra **KB3LJF**. **KB3PGN** is learning the VE ropes. **AK3RX** is selling his HF station.

# Coffman's Cannonball Express



As is customary every second meeting in May, the club elections were held on the 16th. The train no sooner pulled into the station and it chugged out with everyone not even realizing they were on board.

At the beginning of the meeting, regular rules were suspended and the floor was open for nominations for club officers. Bob, WA3SWA, made a motion that all the current club officers be re-elected. Phil, W3VRD, seconded the motion and a show of hands was made to make it unanimous. It happened so fast that Lou, KB3LJF, didn't realize that he was on the train as it left the station. Joe, WB3FMT, thought he was the only one on the train.

The final result was that the Aero Amateur Radio Club Officers for 2012-2013 are:

Joe Miko	WB3FMT	President
Bob Venanzi	ND3D	Vice-President
Lou Kordek	KB3LJF	Recording Secretary
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary
Warren Hartman	W3JDF	Treasurer
Ron Distler	W3JEH	Resource Coordinator

## VE Corner *by AC3F*

### Testing to Return To White Marsh

Beginning with the September Test Session, VE exams will return to the White Marsh Branch of the Baltimore County Public Library. Testing at White Marsh will be on the following Saturdays:

September 22  
November 24  
2013  
January 26  
March 23  
May 11.

All test sessions will begin at 1 p.m.

## Remembering MGY (SK)



*Jack Philips*



*Harold Bride*

During the weekend of April 14-15 there were many commemorations of the ill-fated RMS Titanic which went down after striking an iceberg and losing 1500 souls 100 years ago. There were wreath layings to honor the victims. There was the re-release of a movie in 3D. There were even cruises to the disaster site with passengers in 1912 garb and dining with the menu that was served at the time.

The amateur radio community did not let this 100th anniversary pass unnoticed either. There were many special event stations on the air over the weekend to honor the memory of Titanic radio operators, Jack Philips and Harold Bride. Both men sent out the "CQD" alerting other ships at sea for the need of help. Jack Philips did not survive the sinking, but Harold Bride did and continued to send lists of survivors to New York from the Marconi Room of SS Carpathia.

Many of the Aero Club's members participated in making contacts with the special event stations that were on the air. The stations worked were as follows:

KM1CC (Marconi Museum) Chatham, MA. worked KB3EK, ND3D, AC3F, AC3P, W3PGA  
K1T (Marconi Wireless Radio Site) AC3P  
K3MGY (Titanic Memorial Association Catonsville, Md.) AC3P W3PGA  
W0S (Titanic Museum Branson, Mo.) ND3D  
VO1MGY (Admiralty House Meseum, Newfoundland ) AC3P W3PGA  
GR100MGY (Surrey, England Jack Philips Memorial) AC3F AC3P ND3D

# Field Day 2012

Field Day this year will be held at Essex Sky Park on Diffendal Rd off of Back River Neck Rd. Setup will begin at 5 pm. This year we will be setting up shelters in addition to the stations and antennas. We will need as many people as possible to help with setup on Friday and breakdown on Sunday.

As in previous years we plan to run Class 3A and a VHF Station.

Directions:

The Skypark is located at 1401 Diffendall Road, in Essex Maryland. It is approximately 4.6 miles south of intersection of Eastern Boulevard MD 150 and Stemmers Run Road.

From Eastern Blvd. and Stemmers Run road go South on Stemmers Run Road it turns into Back River Neck Road. Stay on Back River Neck Road for approximately 4.1 miles you will see an Airport sign Essex Skypark. Make the right turn go about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile the Field Day site is on the right just before the parking lot.

You can also reach the Airport by taking Baltimore Beltway I695 past exit 35 or JFK I95 (exit 33SB or 64NB) and going toward Essex. After passing Pulaski Highway RT 40 (exit 35) stay in the left lane and take RT 702. Stay on RT 702 till the end it runs into Back River Neck Road. Go about 1.6 miles and you will see the Airport sign on the right. Make a right turn and go about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. The site is on the right.

If you plan a fly-in the Airport's FAA designation is W48, located on the Washington Sectional and is 3 nm SE of Baltimore City. Use CTAF/UNICOM 122.7.

## Jove Checks In On Ten



Every now and then the 10 meter band will be open during the Aero Club's monthly nets. When that happens many stations from other states check in and are most welcome.

Recently over the past few months a DX station about 400 million miles distant has been checking in on 28.445 MHz quite regularly.

Many of us who check into the 10 meter net have noticed QRN that sounds like waves on a beach throughout the net. We even noted that the noise increases and decreases in strength.

During an episode of the television show *The Universe*, it was mentioned that the planet Jupiter emits radio waves and that one of the sounds is that of ocean waves. Further investigation by this writer turned a website with the sounds of Jupiter with audio files of the recorded signals. The noise heard during the Aero to meter net sounds almost identical the recording of a Jovian L burst. The reader can hear the at <http://www.radiosky.com/rjcentral.html>.

Perhaps we should rename our 10 meter get together The Aero ARC Ten Meter and Radio Astronomy Net.

*Ed Note: During the May 10 meter net Jupiter had already set and the sound of waves was gone.*

## Venus to Block Sun

*At least she will make a try*



On June 5th at 6:03 P.M. a very rare celestial event will take place. The planet Venus will be aligned between the Sun and Earth and will be seen to cross the our nearest star. This phenomenon happens in pairs every 243 years. The first of the current pair took place in 2004. This June's event closes out the pair and it will not happen again until December 2117.

On the day of the transit, Joe WB3FMT and Frank AC3P will set up "Mt. Essex Observatory" to record the transit from Essex Skypark. Club members are invited to stop by between 6 and 7 p.m. and take a look through the telescope.



## June 2012

						1	2
3	4	Venus Transit 6 - 8 pm 	5	Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	10 Meter Net 28.445 Mhz 8 pm	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	2 Meter Net 8 pm	28	29	30

ARRL VHF QSO PARTY  
Mannassas Fest  
[www.w4vh.org](http://www.w4vh.org)

Field Day Essex Skypark

Harrisburg Hamfest  
[www.w3uu.org](http://www.w3uu.org)

# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for June 2012

June 4<sup>th</sup> - Full Moon "Ripening time" for the Native American Mohawk tribe and the "Moon of Claiming" for the Celts. Partial eclipse of the Moon/. Eclipse in progress at moonset for Eastern US.

June 5/6 – Transit of Venus, the next one will be in 12/11/2117.

June 11<sup>th</sup> - Last Quarter Moon

June 12<sup>th</sup> – The asteroid (2) Pallas 325mi (524km) 0.8° S of the Moon

June 13<sup>th</sup> – Earliest Sunrise

June 17<sup>th</sup> – Earliest morning twilight; Jupiter is 1.1° S of the Moon.

June 19<sup>th</sup> -New Moon

June 20<sup>th</sup> – Summer Solstice begins at 19:09 EDT, longest day, 15 hrs 01m "Druid Feast day"

June 23-24 ARRL Field Day

June 24<sup>th</sup> – Latest twilight

June 25<sup>th</sup> – Spica is 1.4°N of the Moon

June 26<sup>th</sup> – First Quarter Moon

June 27<sup>th</sup> – Latest Sunrise

June 29<sup>th</sup> – Pluto at opposition

### Planet Lookout at mid-Month

**Mercury**- Low in evening twilight, Mag -0.2 Size 6.7 arc sec

**Venus** – Low in dawn twilight, Mag -3.9 Size 9.7 arc sec

**Mars** –Sets near midnight, Mag -1.7 Size 17.9 arc sec

**Jupiter**- Low in the dawn sky, Mag -2.0, Size 35.7 arc sec

**Saturn**- In the western sky, Mag +0.1, Size 18.4

**Uranus**- Eastern morning sky in Cetus, Mag +5.9 Size 3.4 arc sec

**Neptune** – End of moth in morning sky, Mag+7.9 Size 2.5 arc sec.

## Once or Twice in a Lifetime!

Transits of Venus across the disk of the Sun are among the rarest of planetary alignments. Only seven such events have occurred since the invention of the telescope (1631, 1639, 1761, 1769, 1874, 1882 and 2004). As seen from Earth, only transits of Mercury and Venus are possible. On the average, there are 13 transits of Mercury each century. In comparison, transits of Venus occur in pairs with more than a century separating each pair. Venus transits currently recur at intervals of 8, 105.5, 8 and 121.5 years. **This transit will be in progress at sunset.**

Since the apparent diameter of Venus is nearly 1 arc-minute, it is just possible to see without optical magnification (**but using solar filter protection**) as it crosses the Sun. Nevertheless, the planet appears to be only 1/32 of the Sun's apparent diameter so a pair of binoculars or a small telescope at modest power will offer a much more satisfying view. **All binoculars and telescopes must be suitably equipped with adequate filtration to ensure safe solar viewing.** The visual and photographic requirements for observing a transit are identical to those for solar viewing. The planet will begin to touch the Sun's surface at about the 12 o'clock position as seen from Baltimore.

Baltimore 1<sup>st</sup> contact 18:03:46 EDT - 2<sup>nd</sup> contact 18:21:26 22 EDT Mid-Point is 21:29 EDT. Transit ends at 00:49 EDT on June 6<sup>th</sup>. **Sunset in Baltimore is 20:30 EDT**

Venus Transit in 2004 3<sup>rd</sup> contact.  
Middle River, MD



- First Clear Skies – Be Weather Wise- and ready to move to a better location.
- Low Western Horizon, the transit will be in progress at Sunset for the Baltimore Metro Area and the continental U.S. The only U.S. city to see the entire transit will be Honolulu, HI.
- **A Solar Filter or a Number 14 Arc-Welder's filter (Don't use a lower number or any type of photographic or X-Ray film).**

