

THE AERO AERIAL



"Don't spend anymore money!"

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

Editor Frank Stone AC3P

Officers

Joe Miko	WB3FMT	President
Bob Venanzi	ND3D	Vice-President
Lou Kordek	AB3QK	Recording Secretary
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary
Warren Hartman	W3JDF	Treasurer
Ron Distler	W3JEH	Resource Coordinator

Repeater
VE Testing
Public Service
Webmaster
Trustee
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 nd Tues	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County <u>RACES</u> Net
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

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Aero Net Reports

July

28.445 MHz USB.: WB3FMT(NCS) AC3P KB3EK KB3VAE
147.24 MHz. FM: WB3FMT(NCS) AC3P W3JEH KA3SNY

Station Activities

W3VRD operates PSK31 from Coffman's. Where's the radio and antenna? **AI3G** shipped a surprise back to **WB3FMT**. **KB3JDE** sends regards from Tennessee. **AK3RX** sold the HF rig. **KB3VAE** is searching for JOTA volunteers. **AC3F** and **AC3P** visited the Amateur Electronic Supply in Cleveland, Ohio.

VE Corner *by AC3F*



Testing Returns 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.

Contact: Pat Stone, AC3F
410-687-7209
ac3f@juno.com
www.aeroarc.us/vetesting.html

E-Skip On 2 Meters

At about 5:50 p.m. on July 24 Phil, W3VRD, left a voice-mail with Frank AC3P that 2 and 6 meters was open to the mid-west.

Six meter openings, though unpredictable, are fairly common, but for the maximum usable frequency to reach the two meter band is a rare event indeed.

Phil reported working 7 stations in Missouri, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois. He said it has been 20 years since 2 meters had such an opening.

Pat, AC3F, managed a mini pile-up on 2 meters, working stations in Chicago and Kansas City.

Frank, AC3P, worked 2 stations on 2 meters and 1 station on 6 meters.

Let's hope it's not another 20 years for a repeat opening.

A Miracle?



Last month *The Aerial* reported the demise of President Joe's Astron power supply at the end of Field Day. Joe handed the unit to Warren, W3JDF. Warren took it home and later returned it to Joe in working order. Warren said he did not make any repairs. He just turned it on and it functioned properly. One can only surmise that it was the “laying of hands” that brought the Astron back to life.

Warren has not announced when he will conduct “repair services” next.

Field Day 2013 Rule Change

From ARRL:

Due to concerns regarding extreme heat and weather conditions in many parts of the country, the Board voted to change the Field Day rules to permit Class A and B stations to begin to set up earlier. Prior to the rule change, these stations were not allowed to begin setting up their stations before 1800 UTC on the Friday before Field Day.

Now these stations can begin setting up as of 0000 UTC on the Friday before Field Day (Thursday afternoon or evening, local time). Even though the rule change permits setup to begin 18 hours earlier, cumulative setup time shall not exceed 24 hours.

This is the first major change to the Field Day rules since 2003, when a new class -- Class F for EOC stations -- was added.

Contesting *from ND3D*

IARU HF World Championship

Call: ND3D

Operator(s): ND3D

Station: ND3D

Class: SO Mixed QRP

QTH: MD

Operating Time (hrs):

Summary:

Band CW Qs Ph Qs Zones HQ Mults

40: 48 0 3 4

20: 146 15 13 18

15: 53 3 10 10

10: 20 4 3 1

Total: 267 22 29 33 Total Score = 38,378

Club: Potomac Valley Radio Club

How A Small Press Release Turned Into A Feature Article



Each Field Day the I send a Press Release to inform and invite the press and public to our FD site. Each year the release is sent to the local papers and television stations. Each year the news media ignores it.

Even though the media ignore us, the ARRL still awards bonus points for our effort.

After Field Day we decided to take a different approach. One year we sent out a post event article with a picture of a member operating a radio and it was published. So I resent the press release as an after the event article and included a picture of Pat AC3F. Since this is her 40th anniversary as a ham, I tagged the photo with that tag-line.

The next day I received an email from the editor of *The Avenue* requesting more information about Pat. I then turned the matter over to her and she continued the conversation with the editor.

What resulted was a two page article about women in amateur radio and Pat's ham radio career in particular. *The Avenue* did include my article on the club's Field Day as an inset.

To borrow a hockey term, our publicity effort was a hat trick. Pat got some unexpected recognition. The Aero ARC got very positive publicity and the Essex Skypark received a plug as well.

Dues: No Change



According to the Club Constitution, the dues rate should be reviewed each year to determine if any adjustment are needed, up or down.

At July meeting Frank AC3P brought the issue up for consideration. Phil, W3VRD made a motion to continue with the current dues rate. After some discussion the membership decided that President Joe and Treasurer Warren look at the past year's expenses and Phil's motion was tabled until the next meeting.

At the August 1st meeting the members took the dues issue up again.

As part of Joe's and Warren's review, they found that several people on the roster had not paid dues and had not attended meetings for over a year. They also found that although some expenses for Field Day and liability insurance were less for 2012 than for 2011, unexpected repairs to the repeater system were incurred this year. An upcoming expense to support the VE Testing Program is expected for the fall. Finally it had been decided to maintain a floor of \$1000 to replace the repeaters should that be needed. The bottom line is that the current dues rate plus the club 50-50 just about covers a year's expense.

With the above information in mind, President Joe brought up Phil's motion for reconsideration. The motion was seconded and passed 11 votes in favor; 1 vote opposed.

The dues for 2013 will remain at \$24 for regular members and \$2 for family members.

Ed Note: Warren sez DO NOT use the currency shown above.



SEPTEMBER 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																			
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9 Grandparents Day ARRL VHF CONTEST	10	11 Patriot Day	12 28.445 Mhz Net 08:00:00 PM	13	14	15 Virginia Beach Hamfest www.vbhamfest.com																																																																																			
16	17 Rosh Hashanah	18	19 Meeting Coffman's 07:30:00 PM	20	21	22 Autumnal equinox VE Testing White Marsh 01:00:00 PM																																																																																			
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Calendars by Vertex42.com

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for September 2012

Remember When.....

Sept 8th - Last Quarter Moon, the Moon is 0.6° S of Jupiter at 07:00 EDT

Sept 9th – Ceres 952 km the largest asteroid is 0.6° S of the Moon. Ceres is also known as a dwarf planet.

Sept 12th – Moon passes 0.8° S. of Spica at 01 :00 EDT.

Sept 14th - The Zodiacal Light is visible in the Northern latitudes before morning twilight for the next two weeks.

Sept 15th -New Moon

Sept 19th – Moon is 0.1° S of Mars 17:00 EDT.

Sept 21st – First Quarter Moon

Sept 22nd - Equinox Fall/Spring 10:49 EDT, 14:49 UT

Sept 22/23rd – Uranus passes close to 44 Piscium a Mag +5.7 Yellow star, Uranus is Mag +5.7 blue/green in color and is 3.6 arc seconds wide.

Sept 28- Full Moon “Time of Much Freshness” for the Native American Mohawk tribe and the “Singing Moon” for the Celts.

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Mercury - Out of Sight in the Sun's glare.

Venus – Morning Star, high in the East at dawn, Mag -4.1 Size 17.8 arc sec

Mars –Low in Southwest at twilight. Mag +1.2 Size 5.0 arc sec\

Jupiter- Rises in late evening, high in south at dawn. Mag -2.4, Size 41 arc sec

Saturn- Right of Mars at twilight, Mag +0.8, Size 15.8

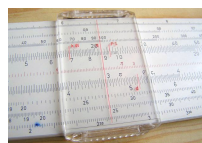
Uranus- Visible all night Mag +5.7 Size 3.6 arc sec

Neptune –Visible most of the night, Mag+7.8Size 2.5 arc sec.

I remember when back in 1958 as a youngster Astronomy was simpler. All you needed was a book by Zim called Stars.



In the uncomplicated universe, it's all I needed. I knew all of the nine planets by name, size and location. I also knew that our solar system had 31 moons. I know we still had comets, asteroids and meteors, but they were in the, also ran category. I looked at the night sky with my trusty A.C. Gilbert telescope.



This was a 60mm F/12 Newtonian reflector. If you were interested in Space Travel all you needed was to get a library book by Willy Ley, or watch the Walt Disney's Tomorrow Land Disney in Space and Beyond. If you needed to do the math on astronomy problems or conversion there was always a slide rule.

There was this up and coming agency called NASA, something the civilian government and military was putting together to try to get a satellite into space it was established on July 29th, 1959.

Today we have 8 planets (Pluto was demoted in 2006 to a Dwarf Planet), 5 Dwarf Planets, including Pluto and 170 moons. Oh, on 7/11/12 a 5th moon was discovered by the Hubble Space Telescope orbiting Pluto. I need more books.....