

THE AERO AERIAL



The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
Middle River, Md
Volume 10 Issue 3
March 2013

Editor Frank Stone AC3P

Officers

| | | | |
|----------------|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Joe Miko | WB3FMT | President | Repeater |
| Bob Venanzi | ND3D | Vice-President | VE Testing |
| Lou Kordek | AB3QK | 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 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 |

AERO NET REPORT

28.445 MHz: WB3FMT(NCS) AC3P KB3EK KB3IKB

147.24 MHz: WB3FMT(NCS) W3JEH AC3P KA3SNY AB3QK K7JUA

449.575 Mhz:WB3FMT (NCS) AK3RX AC3P W3JEH KA3VAE

Station Activities

WB3FMT is leading the cheer. **AB3QK** is now able to hit the 2 meter repeater from his QTH. Congrats to **ND3D** for winning the club contest. Somebody rescue **KB3PGN** from Annapolis the madness! **AK3RX** is back on the air. **W3VRD** is portable 4. Or is that maritime mobile?

For Sale

Cushcraft R8 40-6 meters. New in unopened box. I paid \$529 from HRO
Selling for \$429.00 cash only local pickup. Save \$100.00 Conact Ed, W3PG

VE Corner *by Pat AC3F*

The January Test Session at White Marsh had two applicants. Congratulations to, Eric Knox **KB3ZTY** who upgraded to General and to new Tech Bart Oledzki, **KB3ZWZ**.

Thanks to KB3KRV, AB3QK and AC3P for their help.

The next test session will be held at White Marsh on Saturday, March 23rd. Registration is at 1 p.m.

AERO Club Contest Results 22 Days & 22 Nights of Fun

submitted by Bob ND3D

As promised, the annual AERO Club operating contest for 2013 played with a revamped scoring scheme in place. While no one was able to claim the big multipliers for a satellite or earth-moon-earth contact, a number of club members were still able to participate our contest.

The 2013 winner is Bob ND3D with a total of 393 points. Bob made all of his contacts during the NAQP SSB weekend. He was closely followed by Phil W3VRD with 214 points and Chuck KB3EK with 145 points. Both Phil and Chuck relied on the digital PSK mode for most of their contacts. Frank AC3P and Pat AC3F also posted logs, both showing participation in the ARRL's Straight Key Night.

| CALL | NAME | Q's | TOTAL POINTS |
|--------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| ND3D | Bob | 131 | 393 |
| W3VRD | Phil | 46 | 214 |
| KB3EK | Chuck | 29 | 145 |
| AC3P | Frank | 4 | 6 |
| AC3F | Pat | 5 | 5 |
| TOTALS | 215 | | 763 |
| By | CW | SSB | Digital |
| MODE | | | |
| ND3D | 0 | 131 | 0 |
| W3VRD | 0 | 8 | 38 |
| KB3EK | 0 | 0 | 29 |
| AC3P | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| AC3F | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Sub- | 8 | 140 | 67 |
| TOTAL | | | |
| Grand TOTAL | | | 215 |

Field Day 2013

The Essex Skypark Association has granted the club permission to return to their location for Field Day again this year. Plans are to use the new building for the W3PGA setup and run feed-lines over to antennas which will be in the field. More details need to be worked out.

Essex Skypark Status

A public notice appeared in *The Jeffersonian* announcing a pending lease for the Essex Skypark Association. The lease will allow the association to remain on the 60 acre property for 99 years for a rent of \$1 per year. There is a stipulation that a \$200,000 deposit fee is required.

EME Project Update

The W3PGA to the Moon project continues to progress. Phil, W3VRD has 3 Yagis complete with a fourth to be finished when the weather improved. Warren, W3JDF has ordered parts for the phasing harness. Al, K3ROJ has offered an linear amp and rotator for the effort. Joe, WB3FMT is continuing to research the best dates for the attempt.

Mt. Essex News

Frank AC3P reports that the maintenance 8 inch telescope is complete. Joe WB3FMT has a new interface to control the 11 inch telescope with a tablet. Joe is also listed as Staff Astronomer for Mt. Essex in the LINKEDIN website. He is not sure how that happened.

Comet for March

Weather permitting, the Mt. Essex "staff" will be at Essex Skypark on Sunday, March 10th to observe Comet Pan-Stars. Club members are invited to stop by and take a look. Viewing should begin after 7 p.m. Listen on the 147.24 Mhz repeater for any change in plans.

Public Service Opportunities

The Baltimore Radio Amatuer Television Society is looking for volunteer operators for two upcoming Multiple Sclerosis Events. The first event is a Walkathon at Towson University on April 14, 2013. The second is a Bike Tour at the Talbot County Community Center on the weekend of June 2 and 3, 2013.

For additional information, contact Bob, WA3SWA, or Ed, N3GXH.

Greater Baltimore Hamboree

The Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest will be held at the Timonium Fairgrounds on Saturday April 6, from 9 a.m. To 4 p.m.

For more information see their website at <http://www.gbhc.org>.

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for March 2013

Mar. 1st – Moon passes 0.1° S of Spica 02:00 EST

Mar. 2nd – Saturn is 3.3° N. of the Moon 10:00 EST

Mar. 4th - Last Quarter Moon

Mar. 10th – DST begins 02:00 EST (Clocks ahead 1 hr)
DST ends on 11/3/13.

Mar. 11th - New Moon

Mar. 12th- Comet C/2011 L4 Pan-STARRS visible 12th
thru 4/5/13 in the Western Sky.

Mar. 17th- Moon passes 1.5° S of Jupiter 21:00 EDT.

Mar. 19th - First Quarter Moon

Mar. 20th – Spring Equinox 07:02 EDT (11:02 UT)

Mar. 27th - Full Moon “**Sap Moon**” for the Shawnee
American Indian tribe and the “**Worm Moon**”
Traditional Full Moon Names.

Mar. 29th- Moon passes 3° S of Saturn 16:00 EDT.

Mar. 31th – Mercury at Greatest Elongation 28° W of
the Sun.

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 07:17 EDT and Sunset 19:13 EDT

Mercury , Venus and Mars – out of sight this months in the
glare of the Sun.

Jupiter In the South at sunset In Taurus near Aldebaran
magnitude -2.2 size 37.4 arc seconds.

Saturn In Libra evening sky. Rises before 23:00 EDT.
Magnitude +0.3 size 18.3 arc seconds.

Uranus In the **West** at sunset, sets by 20:11 EDT.
Magnitude +5.9 size 3.3 arc seconds.

Neptune In the dawn sky rises at 06:29 EDT. Magnitude +8.0
size 2.4 arc seconds.

First of the Great Comets of 2013

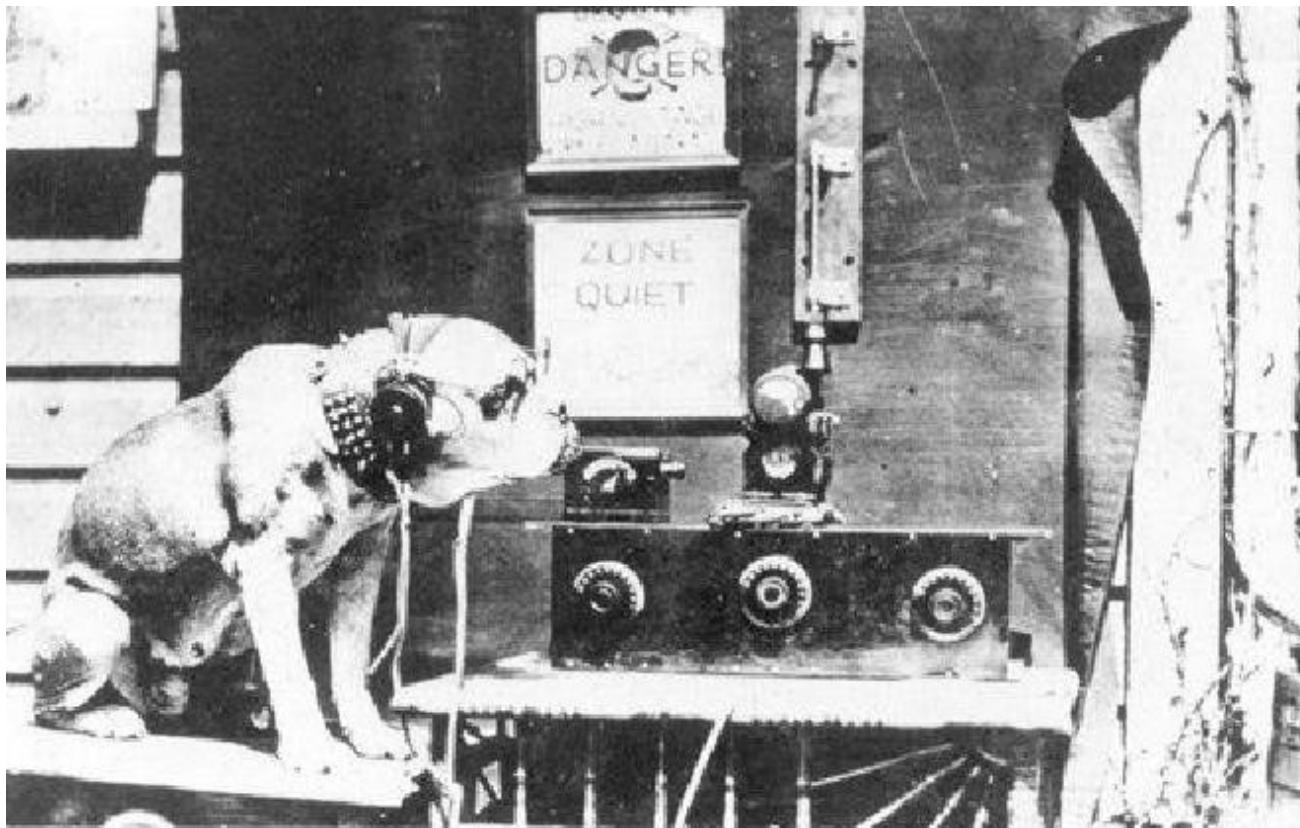
There are two comets that are making there
appearance in 2013. First in March and then in
November, the March comet is C/2011 L4 Pan-
STARRS the second in November is C/2012 S1
aka Comet ISON . Comet C/2011 L4 is expected
to pass closest to the Sun on March 10, 2013. It
will be visible in western sky about 45 minutes
after sunset. Sunset on March 12 occurs at
19:10 EDT local. It should be visible from March
12 thru April 5 per Feb. Sky & Telescope. On
the 12th it will be East of a crescent Moon.

What you need to see the Comet is low western
horizon, the comet will be about 9° above the
western horizon. Az 255.3° Alt 9.5°. The
estimated magnitude is +0.6. A pair of binoculars
or telescope using low power. Even bright
comets are dim when compared to stars. The
magnitude of a star is its point source of light a
comet is like looking at a nebula, the brightness
is the whole image not a point source. The
comet will rise a little higher and mover towards
the northwest each evening.

Comet location

| Date | RA | Dec | m1 |
|------|----------|--------|------|
| 3/10 | 00:21:57 | -05:31 | +0.5 |
| 3/15 | 00:33:08 | +17:10 | +1.1 |
| 3/20 | 00:35:20 | +17:50 | +2.1 |
| 3/25 | 00:34:14 | +26:33 | +3.2 |
| 3/30 | 00:32:11 | +33:54 | +4.1 |
| 4/5 | 00:29:27 | +41:29 | +5.0 |

As comet hunter and astronomer David Levi
states comets and cats have tails, and both
do what they want to!



KC3DOG

March 2013

| | | | | | | | ARRL DX Phone Contest |
|-----------------------------|----|----|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----|----|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | 1 |
| ARRL DX Phone Contest | 3 | 4 | 5 | Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| | | | | 28.445 MHz Net 8 pm | | | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | | | Meeting Coffman's 7:30 pm | | | | VE Testing White Marsh 1 pm |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | | | 147.24 MHz Net 8 pm | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | | |