



Autumn is here!

The Aero Aerial

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
Middle River, MD
Volume 14, Issue 10
October 2017

Editor Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

Officers

President	Joe Miko WB3FMT	Repeater	Phil Hock W3VRD Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
Vice-President	Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ	VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
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		Contests	Bob Venanzi ND3D Charles Whittaker KB3EK

Website: <http://w3pga.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Aero-Amateur-Radio-Club/719248141439348>

About the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Meetings

The Aero Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 pm on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at Essex SkyPark, 1401 Diffendall Road, Essex. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. local time. Meetings are canceled if Baltimore County Public Schools are closed or dismiss early.

Repeaters

W3PGA **2 M :** INPUT : 147.84 MHz, OUTPUT : 147.24 MHz, PL 123.0
W3PGA **70 Cm:** INPUT : 444.575 MHz, OUTPUT : 449.575 MHz, PL123.0
W3JEH **1.25 M:** INPUT : 222.24 MHz, OUTPUT : 223.84 MHz

Club Nets

Second Wednesday Net – 10 Meters (28.445 MHz) @ 8 p.m. Local Time

Fourth Wednesday Net – 2 Meters (147.24 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m. Local Time

Fifth Wednesday Net – 70 Centimeters (449.575 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m. Local Time

Radio License Exams

The Aero Amateur Radio Club sponsors Amateur Radio License Exams with the ARRL VEC. Examination sessions are throughout the year. Walk-ins are welcome; arrive no later than 30 minutes after start time. \$15 charge.

2017 Examination Schedule

Time:	1:15 pm		
Dates:	Sunday, November 19		
Where:	White Marsh Library		

White Marsh Library, 8133 Sandpiper Circle, White Marsh, MD

Contact: Patricia Stone AC3F, email: ac3f@juno.com, landline: 410-687-7209

LOCAL AREA NETS

Day	Time	Freq. (MHz)	Net Name
Daily	9 – 10 am	145.330	Oriole Net
Daily	6 pm	3.820	Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Daily	6:30 – 7 pm	145.330 no PL	Balto. Traffic Net (b/u 146.670 PL 107.2)
Daily	7 pm & 10 pm	3.643	MD/DC/DE Traffic Net
2 nd Tue	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County RACES 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
Fridays	7:30 pm	145.330	Back in the Day Net
When activated by NOAA		147.030	SkyWarn (primary)

This message is repeated verbatim from an email of 9/8/17 from Jim Montgomery to the MDC Section member list.

Thursday, October 5 & Saturday, October 7, 2017: MDC Section Simulated Emergency Test

This section applies to all radio operators in the MDC Section.

The Maryland Department of Health has ordered all health facilities in the State having Amateur radio back up emergency radio systems to exercise those systems Thursday Night October 5 prior to the arrival of Hurricane Elmer. (This is actually the Quarterly MDC Section Hospital Drill).

Those supporting the health care facilities having these radios are asked to contact Wanda Montgomery, MDC ASM for the Section EmComm Health Care Program. Her email address is KA3AHI@aol.com.

Give her your intentions whether playing in the drill or not. Plan with injects is forthcoming once she knows who has signed up. If not in a health care facility yet, your operations may be from the parking lot.

This section of the Notice is targeted to the Eastern Shore Amateur Radio hams. I have no other option but to use this media to reach out to you.

For Oct 7, the scenario will be a direct hurricane hit at or near Ocean City. As the Section Emergency Coordinator, I am having much difficulty finding a conduit to the Eastern Shore hams, NOT HAVING AN EC THOSE COUNTIES, to invite and encourage participation in the SET.

The SET is a month away, but Irma is right around the corner and possibly right down the hall for some of us.

The SET will be an APRS contingent of a fox hunt for a missing child, MEMA traffic for status awareness, and hospital emails over Winlink to health departments.

We need radio operators with their equipment and RVs and trailers for three command posts in the affected area. There is a lot more to the SET than meets the eye and too long to type. If you want to know more, contact me, Jim Montgomery, the MDC EC at wb3kas@arrl.net.

There is a SET Planning meeting on Sept 9 from 1000 to 1400 hours at the Anne Arundel County EOC. The location is 7480 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, Glen Burnie, Md 21061, located West of Route 2. Free parking is available in the parking garage above the EOC.

There will be an SET presentation followed by a discussion. I urge you to join us and help with support to the Eastern Shore.

Contact me with your intentions, please, at wb3kas@arrl.net. I hope to see many of you there to support this year's SET.

73,
Jim Montgomery WB3KAS
MDC Section Emergency Coordinator

NET REPORTS

9-13-17: 28.445 MHz, 20:00 to 20:38 local

W3PGA Joe Essex, KB3JVP Ken Middle River, WA3TAD Eric Rosedale, KB3VAE Rich Middle River, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, KB3HWM Dave White Marsh mobile, KC3AID Marty Rosedale

7 members on the net

09-27-17: 147.240 MHz, 20:00 to 20:28 local.

W3PGA NCS Joe Essex, KC3HXL Joel Essex, N3VBJ Jerry Towson, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, KB3VAE Rich Middle River

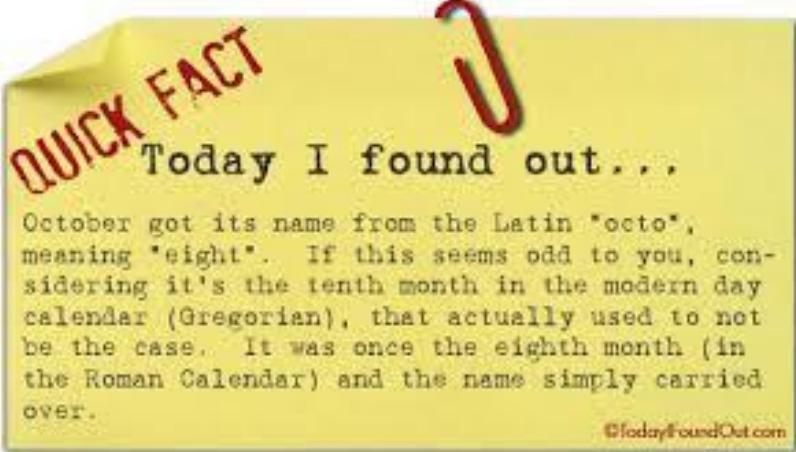
We had 5 members on the net.

Upcoming Second Meeting Presentations

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
11/15	Ham Radio in the Modern Age	Keon KE3HAY
TBA	Contest Logging with N1MM	Bob ND3D
TBA	The Acu-rite Weather Station	?Kelly KC3APF

These presentations will be given at the Essex SkyPark FBO building after the business meeting.

Any questions call Joe Miko at 443-956-0197. Presenters who wish to submit a description of their talk may email it to Georgeann at KB3PGN@reagan.com for inclusion in the Aerial.



Same for September (*septem* = 7), November (*novem* = 9), and December (*decem* = 10)



VE CORNER

by Pat Stone, AC3F

The AERO VE Team held its fifth test session for 2017 on Sunday, September 10th, 2017 at the White Marsh Library. We served 4 applicants. Congratulations to new Technicians Gina Lastner KC3JUQ, Mike Anthony KC3JUO, and Joe Warnecker KC3JUP and new General Richard Smith KC3HXJ.

A very special thanks to VE's: WB3FMT, KD3TP, KB3VAE, AC0LP, KC3FBM and AB3QK for assisting me with this session. You all did a great job. It was a pleasure working with all of you.

Our next test session will be held at 1:15PM on Sunday, November 19 , 2017 at the White Marsh Library. Hope to see you then.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS and EVENTS

Glenn L. Martin Aviation Museum

Wednesday, Oct. 4 and Thursday, Oct. 5: GLM Museum table at the Senior Expo, Timonium Fairgrounds.

Nov. 24: Train garden opening (check website for details)

Glenn L. Martin Monthly Speaker Series

Sept. 11: Historian Jack Breihan, on Martin planes

Oct. 2: Jack Burkert from the Baltimore Museum of Industry, on the three main industries in Baltimore in WWII: Martin, steel, and shipping

Nov. 6: Cheryl Reed of JHU Applied Physics Lab, on DART and other space projects

Hamfests

Sunday, October 1, 2017: CARA Fest

Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD 21794

Website: www.carafest.org

Sponsor: Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Talk-In: 147.390+ (CTCSS: 156.7), K3CUJ repeater, Columbia, MD

Contact: David Parkison, KB3VDY, 1257 Stevens Ave., Arbutus, MD 21227, Phone: 410-977-1249,

Email: info@carafest.org

Sunday, October 22, 2017: Mason Dixon Hamfest

Sportman's Hall Roller Skating Center, 15500 Hanover Pike, Upperco, MD 21155

Website: <http://qis.net/~k3pzn>

Sponsor: Carroll County Amateur Radio Club

Talk-In: 145.410 (PL 114.8)

Contact: Steve Beckman, N3SB, 2145 Bethel Rd., Finksburg, MD 21048, Phone: 443-435-1089, E-mail: n3sb@qis.net

Saturday, December 9, 2017 : Second Annual American Legion PGCERA SantaFest

American Legion Youth Camp, 9201 Surratts Rd., Cheltenham, MD 20623

Website: pgares.org/santafest/

Sponsor: American Legion and Prince Georges County Emergency Repeater Association

Talk-In: 145.230 (CTCSS: 110.9 Hz), K3ERA repeater, Greenbelt

Contact: Charles Hallock, AA3WS, 16203 Manning Rd., West Accokeek, MD 20607 , Phone: 301-535-1666, E-mail: selbynet@hotmail.com

Saturday, April 21, 2018: Delaware State Convention (Delmarva Amateur Radio & Electronics EXPO)

Cheer Community Center, 20520 Sand Hill Rd., Georgetown, DE 19947

Website: www.radioelectronicsexpo.com

Sponsor: Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 147.090 (CTCSS: 156.7 Hz), Sussex County ARES® Primary Repeater, Millsboro, DE

Contact: Herb Quick, KF3BT, PO Box 1431, Seaford, DE 19973, Phone: 302-629-4949, E-mail: herb@hamiltongraphics.com

Saturday, June 30, 2018: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club Firecracker Hamfest

Harrisburg Area Community College, 3599 Industrial Road, Harrisburg, PA 17101

Website: <http://www.w3uu.org>

Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club

Talk-In: 146.76 (CTCSS 100.0 Hz)

Contact: Tim Lehman, KB3OZA, PO Box 453, Hummelstown, PA 17036, Phone: 717-461-3398, Email: kb3oza@arrl.net

You may view upcoming Hamfests at: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>

Feature Article

Perhaps this thought piece could be a jumping off place for some serious discussion at one of our club meetings. – Editor.

Thoughts of a New Ham on EmComm Puerto Rico

by Margaret Holz, KC3FZZ

Ham radio operators are flying out to Puerto Rico to provide emergency communications. I first saw the news in a CNN article: <http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/27/us/puerto-rico-maria-ham-radio-operators-trnd/index.html>

So, the ARRL is coordinating ham radio operators who want to volunteer to help out in Puerto Rico. The island has no electricity. Their gasoline supplies are more scarce and as valuable as gold right now. There isn't a generator to be found anywhere. So when these volunteer ham operators arrive with their radios, what will be their sustainable power source for their radios? Even during our field day in June, we were using a gasoline-driven generator to power all the radios. That's okay if the disaster affecting our area only lasts a few days. But in Puerto Rico, their whole electrical grid is destroyed and it could be MONTHS before power is restored to the general public. Without a reliable supply of gasoline, a generator is useless. Without a generator, there is nothing to power the ham radio.

This is where a portable solar panel unit to power up your radio comes in. Or it can recharge your car battery that is powering your radio. A large enough portable solar power unit can power your radio as long as there is daylight. It works on a cloudy day. The recharged battery can power the radio at night.

Watching the aftermath that Puerto Rico is experiencing is of high interest to me. How does the government and the population address: no electricity for months, no working plumbing in any building still standing, no shelter if you can't be housed in a building, no running water to drink, major dams about to fail, mudslides, wide spread flooding, hospitals destroyed, harbors and ports destroyed, airports and runways destroyed, roads made unusable due to debris and fallen trees,

gangs of criminals running rampant because there is no working 911 system.... How does a ham operator function in these conditions? Inevitably the lack of proper sanitation (raw sewage building up, dead bodies of humans and animals found everywhere, no way to dispose human waste materials) causes outbreaks of Typhus and Cholera, and worse. That's when I and my radio bug out! I do not stay where there are these dangerous diseases popping up.

I am trying to monitor Puerto Rico to see what their dire realities really are and how the problems are addressed. This could be a small-scale version of the USA if North Korea or ISIS should destroy our national electrical grid. We ham radio operators will be the only ones with communications abilities, other than people with satellite phones, which are less numerous than ham operators. Like believers in disaster preparedness, we need to start keeping our radio equipment in enclosed aluminum trash cans to protect them against an EMP [electromagnetic pulse]. Watching Puerto Rico drives home that necessity.

I saw on the internet one ham operator created an EMP-proof portable carrying case, which housed his large ham radio rig, a collapsible portable solar panel to power the batteries that were powering his rig, all his telescoping collapsible antennas with their foldable stands, and other equipment and coax cables and tools and such. He figured if there was a disaster and he had to evacuate from his home, he could grab this one carrying case and bug out in a heartbeat. It was actually on wheels, too heavy and large to hand-carry, but small enough to transport and load into the back seat of his car. That really stuck in my mind. This ham operator could set up his rig literally in an empty field somewhere with his solar panels out and power up his radio when there is no electricity and no gasoline. I bet he's in Puerto Rico, or he should be.

It's Field Day in Puerto Rico, for real.

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for October 2017

Oct 4th – USSR's Sputnik 1 launched 1957.

Oct 5th - Full Moon “**Harvest**” for the Traditional American and the “**Harvest**” for the English Full Moons also Mars is 0.2° lower right of Venus..

Oct 12^h – Last Quarter Moon

Oct 15th –Regulus is 0.2° S of the Moon at 7:00 EDT (11 UT)

Oct 17th –The Zodiacial Light is visible in N lat in the east before morning twilight for the next 2 weeks.

Oct 19st - New Moon

Oct 19th –Uranus at opposition.

Oct 21st – Orionid meteor shower peaks, Moon past New, approx 20 per hr, Excellent

Oct 22nd – The Chinese record the first Solar eclipse in 2136 BC.

Oct 27th - First Quarter Moon

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 07:16 EDT and Sunset 18:27 EDT

Mercury In the Sun's glare.

Venus Dawn rises 05:31 mag -3.9, 10.6 arc sec

Mars Dawn, rises 05:02, mag 1.8 and 3.8arc sec.

Jupiter In the Sun's glare.

Saturn Eve sets 21:43, mag 0.6 size 15.7 arc sec.

Uranus Eve rises 18:32, mag 5.7, size 3.7 arc sec.

Neptune Eve rises 16:45, mag +7.8 size 2.3 arc sec.

Shortcuts to the Sky!

There are 88 constellations spread out, North, East, South and West of us, when we look to the night sky. From 40° we are able to see stars down to -50° latitude. We can see 64 constellations the other 24 are below our horizon.

Another star group in the night sky are called asterisms. In astronomy, an asterism is a pattern of stars recognized on Earth's night sky. It may form part of an official constellation, or be composed of stars from more than one.

The best example is the Big Dipper located in the constellation Ursa Major (Big Bear), this dipper points to the North Star Polaris, which is at the end of the Little Dipper. There are a number of asterisms there are at least 21 non-constellation groups in the night sky.

Ursa Major - Big Dipper	Ursa Minor - Little Dipper
Plough	Guardians
Pointers	

Cassiopeia - The “W”	Great Square of Pegasus
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Leo - Sickle	Winter Triangle
Right Triangle	

Summer Triangle	Cygnus - Northern Cross
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Sagittarius - Teapot	Scorpius- Fish Hook
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Orion - Belt	Delphinus - Job's Coffin
Sword	

Hercules - Keystone	Bootes - Arch
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Draco – Lozenge	Aquarius – “Y” Water Jar
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There are also telescopic asterisms one of the finer one is the “Coat hanger” in Vulpecula.

But feel free to make and use these handy constellation short cuts and joggers.