



*We're ready for it (we hope)!*

## ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
Volume 14, Issue 2  
February 2017

Editor Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

### ***Officers***

President	Joe Miko WB3FMT
Vice-President	Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
Recording Secretary	Lou Kordek AB3QK
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Stone AC3F
Treasurer	Warren Hartman W3JDF
Resource Coordinator	Ron Distler W3JEH

### ***Committees***

Repeater	Phil Hock W3VRD Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
Public Service	Bob Landis WA3SWA
Webmaster, Facebook	Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
Trustee	Dave Fredrick KB3KRV
Club Nets	Joe Miko WB3FMT
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 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. **SEE Snow Policy below.**

## Repeaters

**W3PGA**      **2 M :**    INPUT : 147.84 MHz, OUTPUT : 147.24 MHz  
**W3PGA**      **70 Cm:** INPUT : 444.575 MHz, OUTPUT : 449.575 MHz  
**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	TBD
Dates:	Sunday, March 26	Saturday, June 24
Where:	White Marsh Library	AeroARC Field Day Site

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

Contact:      Patricia Stone AC3F, email: [ac3f@juno.com](mailto: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 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County RACES 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
Fridays	7:30 pm	145.330	Back in the Day Net
When activated by NOAA		147.030	SkyWarn (primary)

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## New Amateur Radio Parity Act

A new bill entitled, the "Amateur Radio Parity Act", was introduced in U.S. House of Representatives as H.R. 555 this week. ARRL HQ will send information in the next weeks on how ARRL members can assist in working towards passage.

*Source: MDC Section News, Vol. 12, No. 01, January 18, 2017*

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### Meeting Night Snow Plan

If Baltimore County Schools are closed for the day or have an early dismissal, the Aero Club meeting for that night will be canceled. Late school openings don't count. If a meeting is canceled due to weather conditions, we will run a 2 meter net at 8 pm that evening.

On other weather events, following snows or ice, I will go to the SkyPark between noon and 4 pm that day and report to club members by email by 5 pm. The airport does not always plow the parking lot, or clear a walkway; it's not safe to walk on hard snow or ice!

Joe Miko, WB3FMT, President

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## NET REPORTS

**01-11-17: 28.445 MHz, 20:00 to 20:20 local**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, N3EKO Ron Parkville, KB3VAE Richard Middle River

**01-25-17: 147.24r MHz, 20:00 to 20:45 local.**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, KB3JVP Ken Middle River, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, KB3VAE Rich Middle River, AC3F Patricia Middle River

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## Upcoming Second Meeting Presentations

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

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
2/15/17	Ron's 220 Repeater	Ron W3JEH
3/15/17	VE Testing & Morse Code	Patricia Stone
TBA	Contest Logging with N1MM	Bob ND3D
TBA	The Acu-rite Weather Station	?Kelly KC3APF
TBA	Ham Radio in the Modern Age	Keon KE3HAY

*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](mailto:KB3PGN@reagan.com) for inclusion in the Aerial.

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### VE CORNER

*by Pat Stone, AC3F*

Next test date is Sunday, March 26, 2017, 1:15 pm, White March Library.

## VE Testing Snow Plan

If Baltimore County Libraries are closed for a testing day (Saturday or Sunday) the VE Testing session for that day will be canceled. Testing applicants that have pre-registered will be notified by phone. Due to the scheduling requirements of Baltimore County Library, we can't schedule a makeup session. Testing will resume on the next scheduled testing date. VE's will be notified by phone in the event of a closure.

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## UPCOMING HAMFESTS and EVENTS

**Saturday, Feb. 4, 2017: Virginia State Convention (FrostFest), 8:30 am – 3:30 pm**

Richmond International Raceway, 600 E. Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23218

<[www.frostfest.com](http://www.frostfest.com)>

Sponsor: Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society

Talk-In: 146.880 (PL 74.4)

Admission: \$10, under 18 free

*VE testing* 10 am – 1 pm. Walk-ins only, no preregistration. Frostfest ticket not required for exam.  
Lodging: group rate at Courtyard Marriott \$89/night. Vendor list available on the website.  
Contact: Timothy Farrell, KJ4NPB, 8287 Ellerson Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23111, Phone: 804-306-1134, Email: [<timfarrell57@gmail.com>](mailto:timfarrell57@gmail.com)

**Sunday, March 19, 2017: Winterfest**

Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA.

[www.viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest](http://www.viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest)

Sponsor: Vienna Wireless Society

Talk-In: 146.910(-) MHz

Contact: Thor Berglie, KK4UYT, 2813 Hunter Rd, Fairfax, VA 22031, Phone: 202-495-1315, Email:

[<thor.berglie@gmail.com>](mailto:thor.berglie@gmail.com)

**Saturday, April 22, 2017: Delaware State Convention (Delmarva Amateur Radio and Electronics EXPO)**

Cheer Center, 546 South Bedford Street, Georgetown, DE 19947

[www.radioelectronicsexpo.com](http://www.radioelectronicsexpo.com)

Sponsor: Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Talk-In: 147.090 (PL 156.7)

Contact: Herbert Quick, KF3BT, PO Box 1431, Seaford, DE 19973, Phone: 302-629-4949, Email:

[<herb@hamiltongraphics.com>](mailto:herb@hamiltongraphics.com)

**Saturday, April 29, 2017: 2017 York (Pennsylvania) Hamfest**

Elicker's Grove Park , 511 Roth Church Road, Spring Grove, Pennsylvania

<http://www.yorkhamfest.org>

Sponsor: York Hamfest Foundation

Contact: Duane Sterner, Email: [duane.sterner@yahoo.com](mailto:duane.sterner@yahoo.com)

**Saturday, May 6, 2017: The Greater Hagerstown Hamfest**

Washingtown County Agriculture Center, MD Route 65 South, Sharpsburg Pike, Hagerstown, MD

<http://w3cwc.org/Portals/5/Hagerstown%20Hamfest%202017.pdf>

Sponsor: Antietam Radio Association

Talk-In: 147.09 (PL 100) & 146.94 backup

Contact: Herm Niedzielski, K2AVA, 21512 Leitersburg-Smithsburg Rd, Hagerstown, MD 21742,

Phone: 301-791-5841, Email: [k2ava@myactv.net](mailto:k2ava@myactv.net)

**Friday, May 19, 2017 through Sunday, May 21, 2017: 2017 Dayton [Ohio] Hamvention**

Greene County Fair & Exposition Center, 120 Fairground Rd, Xenia, OH 45385

[<http://www.hamvention.org>](http://www.hamvention.org)

Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association

Talk-In: 146.94 & 146.91 (alternate)

Contact: Phone: 937-276-6930, Email: [<info@hamvention.org>](mailto:info@hamvention.org)

**Sunday, June 18, 2017: BARC's Father's Day Hamfest**

Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company Grounds, 16020 Carnival Avenue, Upperco, MD 21155

[www.w3ft.com](http://www.w3ft.com)

Sponsor: Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Talk-In: None

Contact: Dave Shadwell, AB3TE, PO Box 120, Reisterstown, MD 21136, Phone: 443-465-6583, E-mail: [<w3ft67@yahoo.com>](mailto:w3ft67@yahoo.com)

### **Glenn L. Martin Aviation Museum 2017 Schedule of Events**

Speaker Series: April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3

Open Cockpit: April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8

### **Space Telescope Science Institute – Public Lecture Series**

- **February 7, 2017**

**Speaker:** Priyamvada Natarajan, Yale University

**Title:** Mapping the Heavens: The Radical Scientific Ideas That Reveal The Cosmos

- **March 7, 2017**

**Speaker:** Lauren Corlies, Johns Hopkins University

**Title:** TBA

Free public lectures are broadcast online and may be attended in person at the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI), 3700 San Martin Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218. Each month a noted scientist discusses a different cosmic topic. Lectures are at 8 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month in the STScI auditorium, on the campus of Johns Hopkins University. Steps and a slope give access to the main entrance of the building. Free parking is available during the lectures in the garage directly across the street from the STScI building. For [directions](#), call 410-338-4700.





# Important NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards and Emergency Alert System Changes

NWS Dissemination Services update as of September 28, 2016

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) added three new Event Codes to the Emergency Alert System (EAS) Rules for the 2017 hurricane season.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is the primary means for NWS alerts to activate the EAS. The new rules adopt the following weather Event Codes for both EAS and NWR:

## Extreme Wind Warning Event Code /EWW/

The **Extreme Wind Warning** is an existing operational warning issued for advance notice of sustained surface wind speeds of 115 miles per hour or greater in association with major hurricanes. Extreme Wind Warnings are issued by **all coastal NWS Weather Forecast Offices (WFOs)** in Southern Region and **Eastern Region**, including WFO San Juan, and the following inland WFOs: Albany (NY), Atlanta, Birmingham, Blacksburg, Columbia, Fort Worth, Greenville-Spartanburg, Jackson (MS), Raleigh, San Antonio and Shreveport.

- **For the remainder of the 2016 hurricane season**, NWS local WFOs will request an EAS activation using the Tornado Event Code TOR/. NWS will broadcast on NWR and disseminate using Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) and 1050 Hz warning alarm tones.
- **Beginning with the 2017 hurricane season**, NWS will request EAS activations using the EWW Event Code /EWW/. NWS will broadcast on NWR and disseminate using SAME and 1050 Hz warning alarm tones.

The Storm Surge Watch/Warning is planned for operational use in 2017.

## Storm Surge Watch Event Code /SSA/

For the Gulf and **East coasts**, NWS will issue the Storm Surge Watch for the possibility of life- threatening inundation from rising water moving inland within the specified area, generally within 48 hours, associated with a tropical, subtropical, or post-tropical cyclone.

NWS may issue this watch earlier when conditions, such as tropical storm-force winds, could reduce the time available for protective actions, such as evacuations. NWS also may issue a watch for locations not expected to receive life- threatening inundation but could potentially be isolated by inundation in adjacent areas.

NWS will broadcast Storm Surge Watches on NWR. WFOs may request EAS activation for the Storm Surge Watch when this has been incorporated into state and local EAS plans.



## Storm Surge Warning Event Code /SSW/

For the Gulf and **East coasts**, NWS will issue the Storm Surge Warning to provide advance notice of life-threatening inundation from rising water moving inland within the specified area, generally within 36 hours, associated with a tropical, subtropical or post-tropical cyclone.

NWS may issue a warning early when other conditions, such as the onset of tropical storm- force winds, are expected to reduce the time available to take protective actions, such as evacuations. NWS may also issue this warning for locations not expected to receive life-threatening inundation but which could potentially be isolated by inundation in adjacent areas.

WFOs will request EAS activation using the SSW Event Code. NWS will broadcast Storm Surge Warnings on NWR and disseminate using SAME and 1050 Hz warning alarm tones.

Local NWS offices are now reaching out to their respective State and Local Emergency Communications Committees, state emergency management agencies and broadcaster associations to answer questions and assist with the implementing the new Event Codes. To keep you updated about watch, warning and EAS changes in your area, your local WFO may issue Public Information Statements and Service Change Notices, update web pages, and air Public Service Announcements over NWR.

**Broadcasters' EAS encoder/decoder equipment must be updated to implement the new Event Codes, generally through firmware and/or software updates.**

Broadcasters in geographic areas potentially impacted by tropical cyclones should contact their EAS equipment manufacturer if update instructions are not received in a timely manner. If EAS equipment is not updated and the WFO requests EAS activation using the new Event Codes, the EAS encoder/decoder equipment will usually decode the information received as an "UNKNOWN" Event Code and the EAS will not automatically activate.

**Existing SAME receivers, including Public Alert™ receivers, will process the new event codes.**

For those receivers providing a limited, caption- like message display, the receiver will likely show wording such as "UNKNOWN WATCH" or "UNKNOWN WARNING." However, NWR SAME and Public Alert™ receivers should activate. NWR tone alert receivers should activate with the 1050 Hz tone for the warnings. NWS Headquarters will work with the receiver manufacturers to ensure the new codes are added to newly manufactured receivers.

NWS will issue further updates as these changes are implemented. Please send any dissemination questions to Tim Schott, NWS Dissemination Services Manager, at [timothy.schott@noaa.gov](mailto:timothy.schott@noaa.gov) or 301-427-9336; policy questions to Jessica Schauer, NWS Tropical Cyclone Services Manager, at [jessica.schauer@noaa.gov](mailto:jessica.schauer@noaa.gov) or 305-229-4476; or contact the Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) at your local WFO for more detailed information. WCM contact information is provided at: <http://www.stormready.noaa.gov/contact.shtml>

**Related Websites** NWS Home Page: <http://www.weather.gov/> National Hurricane

Center: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

NHC Frequently Asked Questions: <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/easfaq/> NWR Home Page:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/> NWS EAS Information [http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/eas\\_d  
escription.html](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/info/eas_description.html)



# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## No Shadow of a Doubt!

### SKY Events for February 2017

*Feb 1<sup>st</sup>* – Space Shuttle Columbia STS 107 disintegrated upon re-entry all seven onboard perished in 2003.

*Feb, 2<sup>nd</sup>* – Ceres Dwarf Planet 1.0° S of Moon at 21:00 EST

*Feb 4<sup>th</sup>* - First Quarter Moon

*Feb 5<sup>th</sup>* - Aldebaran 0.2° S of Moon

*Feb 10<sup>th</sup>* Full Moon “**Snow Moon**” for the Traditional American and the “**Wolf Moon**” for the English Full Moon

*Feb 15<sup>th</sup>* - Galileo was born in 1564. Jupiter 3° S of Moon

*Feb 17<sup>th</sup>* – Venus greatest illumination -4.8 magnitude.

*Feb 18<sup>th</sup>* - Last Qtr Moon, Former Planet Pluto discovered in 1930 by Clyde Tombaugh.

*Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>* – Supernova 1987A was discovered in 1987.

*Feb 26<sup>th</sup>* – New Moon and Annular Solar eclipse visible in southern South America and Africa.

*Feb 27<sup>th</sup>* – Mars is 0.6° N of Uranus at 03:00EST

### Planet Lookout at mid-Month Sunrise 06:58 EST and Sunset 17:42 EST

**Mercury** Dawn rises 06:26, magnitude -0.3; 5.0 arc seconds

**Venus** Dusk sets 21:12, magnitude -4.8; 38.0 arc seconds.

**Mars** Dusk sets 21:33, magnitude 1.2 and 4.8 arc sec.

**Jupiter** Evening, rises 22:10, magnitude -2.2 size 40.5 arc sec.

**Saturn** Morning rises 03:20, magnitude 0.6 size 15.9 arcsec.

**Uranus** Evening sets 22:10, magnitude +5.9 size 3.4 arc sec.

**Neptune** Dusk sets 18:49, magnitude +8 size 2.2 arc sec.

This February, the 17<sup>th</sup> to be exact, the planet Venus will reach just short of its greatest brilliancy possible a – 4.9 magnitude as an evening object.

The planet will appear to be 39.8 arc seconds in diameter showing a 27% phase. Venus like Mercury being an inferior planet (meaning between the Earth and the Sun) exhibits phases just like Earth's Moon. Since Venus is cloud covered, the only photos we have are from Russian Landers that lasted about two hours after touchdown, Magellan spacecraft and the RADAR images provided by the 980 foot Arecibo Observatory located in Puerto Rico.

The International Astronomical Union is tasked with naming planets, moons and their surface features, based on a set of established procedures.



UV photo on left, Magellan RADAR image on the right.

Of the thousands of named features, mountains, creators, valleys etc. only three items are named for men the rest are woman. Various Astronomy text books and literature states that only five heavenly object can cause a shadow to be cast on Earth. These are the Sun, Moon, Venus, Jupiter and the Milky Way Galaxy. In order to see a shadow from a planet it must be after sunset, no Moon and no ambient light. They suggest using a light background and photograph it using a digital camera at ISO 3200 and using an 80 second exposure. From a Sky & Telescope article. The Sun in on the left Venus on the right.

