



**Finally..  
Spring is just around the corner**

*We hope!*

## ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
Volume 14, Issue 4  
April 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
Recording Secretary	Lou Kordek AB3QK	Public Service	Bob Landis WA3SWA
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Stone AC3F	Webmaster, Facebook	Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
Treasurer	Warren Hartman W3JDF	Trustee	Dave Fredrick KB3KRV
Resource Coordinator	Ron Distler W3JEH	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.

## 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	Noon
Dates:	Sunday, May 21	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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## Meeting Night Snow Plan

See the March Aerial for details.

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## NET REPORTS

### **03-08-17: 28.445 MHz, 20:00 to 20:51 local.**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, KC3HXL Joel Essex, KC3FRH Chuck Parkville, KB3FBL Jim Parkville, KA3ZWM Joe Rosedale

Joel will bring the MFJ 464 Code reader keyboard to the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **03-15-17: SNOW net, 147.24r MHz, 20:00 to 21:12 local.**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, N3RES Ray Lutherville, AA3GG Gus Parkville, KB3JVP Ken Middle River, N3VBJ Jerry Towson, KB3QWC Larry Middle River, K2ODG Joe Chase, KC3IPK Dave Perry Hall, N1TTX Don Essex, AC3F Patricia Middle River, KC3FBM Franklin Parkville, AB3PP Calvin Towson, KC3HXL Joel Essex, KC3FNN Rob Parkville, K3ROJ Al Essex, KC3EPH Bill Dundalk, KC3FRH Chuck Parkville

The Aero ARC instituted their Snow Plan, because Baltimore Co. Schools were closed, and no meeting. **This is a record – there were 17 check-ins and the net lasted 1 hr 12 mins.**

### **03-22-17: 147.24r MHz, 20:00 to 20:36 local.**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, N3VBJ Jerry Remote California, KC3HXL Joel Essex, KB3JVP Ken Middle River, AB3PP Calvin Baltimore City, W3VRD Phil Essex, KC3IPK Dave Perry Hall, AC3F Pat Middle River, KD3TP Steve Mobile Baltimore, W1ASA Izzy Baltimore City, KB3VAE Rich Middle River

### **03-29-17: 449.575r MHz, 20:00 to 20:21 local**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, N3VBJ Jerry Towson, KB3VAE Rich Middle River, KB3QWC Larry Middle River, KC3IJN Owen Baltimore City

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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>
4/19/17	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

### April Program Notes

by Pat Stone (AC3F)

During our April 19<sup>th</sup> club meeting I would like to talk to you about our terrific VE Team and how you can join us. We will talk about what VE's do and how you can become a VE. Over the past 15 years our VE team has helped license or upgrade approximately 375 amateurs. Several have even joined our club. It is very satisfying to know that you have helped others join the Amateur Radio service.

In addition I would also like to introduce, or in some cases re-introduce, you to the wonderful world of CW (Morse code). Though it may seem challenging at first, it is a great way to communicate with other hams around the world. Once you get the "hang" of it, it's fun! Hope to see you there. --... .--



*This won't be our experience if Pat teaches us!*

*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

Our next test session will be held at 1:15 pm on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at the White Marsh Library. Hope to see you then.

## UPCOMING HAMFESTS and EVENTS

## **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**

Washington 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>

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)



**Open Cockpit** has new hours for 2017 so visitors can beat the heat. Shuttle buses to the flight line begin at 9:15 AM and the last bus goes to Strawberry Point at noon. In the event of rain, the Open Cockpit will be canceled.

Saturday, April 8, Saturday, May 13, Saturday, June 10, Saturday, July 8

*Source: Martin Museum newsletter, Spring 2017*

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

**April 4, 2017: Speaker:** David Law, Space Telescope Science Institute

**Title:** Integrated Field Unit Spectroscopy

**May 2, 2017: Speaker:** Mia Bovill, Space Telescope Science Institute

**Title:** The Harvard Computers and the HR Diagram

**SKYWARN® CLASSES** -- "Basics" is a prerequisite for all other courses.

### **BASICS**

03-02-2017, 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy, 4600 West Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

REGISTRATION: <https://skywarnbasicsfairfax.eventbrite.com>

### **BASICS**

04-03-2017, 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute, 4500 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740

REGISTRATION: <https://skywarnbasicsprincegeorges.eventbrite.com>

### **FLOOD (Advanced)**

04-05-2017, 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Montgomery Public Safety HQ 100 Edison Park Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

REGISTRATION: <https://skywarnmontgomeryflood.eventbrite.com>

### **FLOOD (Advanced)**

04-12-2017, 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Jefferson Independent Fire Company, 200 West 2nd Avenue, Ranson, WV 25438

REGISTRATION: <https://skywarnfloodjefferson.eventbrite.com>

### **FLOOD (Advanced)**

04-18-2017, 7:00 - 10:00 PM

Loudoun Co. Fire and Rescue Training Ctr., 16600 Courage Court, Leesburg, VA 20175

REGISTRATION: <https://skywarnfloodloudoun.eventbrite.com>

### **BASICS**

04-24-2017, 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Harford Co. Department of Emergency Services, 2220 Ady Road, Forest Hill, MD 21050

REGISTRATION: <https://skywarnbasicsharford.eventbrite.com>

Visit this webpage for details - <http://www.weather.gov/lwx/skywarn>

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## **Preparation for Public Service Events: Advice from an Organizer**

*Adapted by Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN from an article by Bill Burkett, KE7IXS, of the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club*

### **Before the event:**

Choose a reliable radio you have used before. Make sure you know how to key in a frequency in VFO mode. Conditions are variable, and an agreed-on frequency may have to be changed.

Agree on the frequency to be used, whether simplex or a repeater. If using an HT, bring extra batteries and your most reliable antenna. A rubber duck may not be adequate. If distance is involved, a mag mount 5/8 wave antenna would be a good option. If the environment will be noisy, bring a headset, and make sure it works with your equipment. If connecting to a power supply, bring appropriate cables, such as a cable with gator clips for connecting to a car battery or a cigarette lighter adapter.

Bring your lunch and plenty of water or other drink. There may not be food available, or there may not be time for a food run. Dress for the weather. Have a first aid kit, sunscreen, insect repellent if appropriate to the weather.

If working a big event, bring paper and pencils for taking notes.

### **Day of the event:**

Arrive on time, of course.

If the area/location is unfamiliar, come early to familiarize yourself with it, meet up with served agency personnel, and check in with net control (if applicable).

Move about to improve communications if necessary.

Keep talk to a minimum. Only necessary traffic.

# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for April 2017

Apr 1<sup>st</sup> – Aldebaran is 0.3° S of Moon occultation visible in US 05:00 EDT.

Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> – First photograph of the Sun in 1845

Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> - First Quarter Moon

Apr 7<sup>th</sup> – Regulus is 0.7 S of the Moon, Jupiter is at opposition.

Apr 11<sup>st</sup> - Full Moon “Pink Moon” for the Traditional American and the “Egg Moon” for the English Full Moons.

Apr 12<sup>th</sup> – Yuri Gagarin (USSR) 1<sup>st</sup> man to orbit the Earth.

Apr 14<sup>th</sup> – Apollo 13 mission aborted due to onboard explosion in 1970.

Apr 19<sup>th</sup> – Last Quarter Moon.

Apr 22 -23<sup>rd</sup> – Lyrids meteor shower 10-20 per hr, but a last quarter moon, poor viewing; Neptune is 0.2° N of the Moon on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Apr 25<sup>th</sup> – Hubble Space Telescope deployed in 1990

Apr 26<sup>th</sup> – New Moon

## Planet Lookout at mid-Month

### Sunrise 06:28 EDT and Sunset 19:44 EDT

**Mercury** Dusk sets 20:22, Mag. 2.3, size 10.0 arc sec

**Venus** Dawn rises 05:00, Mag.-4.6 size 51.9 arc sec

**Mars** Late Eve sets 22:15, mag 1.5 and 4.1 arc sec.

**Jupiter** Dusk, rises 18:49, magnitude -2.5 size 44.2 arc sec.

**Saturn** Morning rises 00:36, mag 0.4 size 17.3 arc sec.

**Uranus** In the Sun’s Glare.

**Neptune** Dawn rises 04:52, magnitude +7.9 size 2.4 arc sec.

## King of all Planets, by Jove - Jupiter

The largest of all the solar system planets comes to opposition on April 7<sup>th</sup>. That means it will be visible all night long. It will be in the constellation Virgo and shines at a magnitude of -2.5, making it the 3rd brightest object in the sky. The planet will be 44 arc seconds in diameter and will be located 37 light minutes (4.5 A.U) from the Earth. A nearly full Moon passes 2° North of Jupiter on April 10<sup>th</sup>.



*Mt Essex 8", Taken by Frank Stone*

Use Sky & Telescope’s apps to find the position of Jupiter’s four largest moons and another for finding out when the Great Red Spot (GRS) transits. Both Sky & Telescope and Astronomy Magazines publish a monthly positional chart showing the moons of Jupiter (Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto).

You can always see up to four moons of Jupiter depending on their orbital positions. Jupiter never gets too small; the apparent size goes from 29.8 to 50.1 arc seconds. Only Venus is larger at its maximum of 66 arc seconds.

## By the Numbers –

Distance from Sun 483,780,000 miles 5.2 A.U.

Diameter 88,846 miles

Mass 318 times Earth

Orbital 11.857 years

Rotation period 9 hrs 50 min

Number of Rings 3, not visible from Earth

Number of Moons 67 S&T

Atmosphere 89.8% H, 10.2% He, .03% various

Belts 10 (dark areas) Zones 9 (light areas)

GRS 18,000 x 8,400 miles at least 300 years old