



*241<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of American Independence*

## ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
Volume 14, Issue 7  
July 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	
Dates:	Sunday, September 10	
Where:	White Marsh Library	

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)

## Field Day 2017

I wish to thank all of the Aero Amateur Radio Club members for supporting and participating in Field Day 2017. The event was, as always, a success. The major factors for the Club's success at the 2017 Field Day were its operating location and the number of Aero participants. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> year at the Essex Skypark (5<sup>th</sup> inside the Community hanger), located off of Back River Neck Road in Essex, Maryland. The other success factors were the number of members helping with Friday's FD setup; **16** members came to help. With a roster of **45** Aero members, an overall total of **22** members were able to participate in either operating or in some other support activities. Not a shabby turnout!

During the 24 hour event we had **17** operators from the Aero ARC; **8** guest hams who visited the Aero setup; and **13** guests ranging from family members and friends to pilots from the airpark. We also had a visit from 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. from the Civil Air Patrol located in Dundalk and based out of Martin State Airport. This breaks down to a **48.8%** club participation operator turn out.

Set up time was done smoothly because of the **16** members who arrived on Friday to assist in site prep and setup on Friday. By 18:00 on Friday all 5 HF radios and associated laptops were setup and ready, as well as the 20 meter beam, also single dipoles consisting of a 40 meter dipole, 80 meter dipole, Windom multi-band dipole, a GP15 (50, 140 and 440 MHz vertical, and a 2 meter and 440 beam.

The club using the newly renewed call sign "AE3RO" was the Net Control Station for the Friday evening (6:30 pm) edition of the Baltimore Traffic Net, the local end of the National Traffic System.

The club's 10-75 meter vertical was set up on Saturday morning. With all the team work and hard effort, everything was ready and operational as of 11:00 on Saturday just in time for the Safety Briefing.

Pat AC3F ran the VE session out of the FBO (Fixed Base Operation) building. We had 10 exam takers, 9 of whom passed with new or upgrades. As a bonus, Jerry N3VBJ was able to present 4 new techs with a dual band HT, courtesy of a local Boy Scout Troop.

The weather during Field Day started hot and muggy with a chance of showers, we had showers Sunday morning before dawn. The temperatures in the low to mid-80s are with winds in the mid-teens.

We had a visit from Marty Pittinger KB3MXM, the MDC Section manager, who made it to our site before noon on Saturday.

All in all, it was a great weekend, and operating fun was had by all.

## Club stats

Ran as 5A  
Setup time on Friday done by 18:00  
Operational as of 11:00 on Saturday  
Safety briefing at 11:00 on Saturday  
VEC Testing on Saturday (10 testees, 9 w/new or upgraded license)  
21 Aero ARC operators participated  
6 visiting hams and 10 other visitors  
Breakdown by 15:30 on Sunday

**We made 1,034 QSO points, 1,650 Bonus points for a Total of 2,684**

**65 CW, 7 Digital and 373 Phone = Total QSOs 445**

**80 m 25.2%, 40 m 45.6%, 20 m 28%, 15 m 0.7% , 10 m 0.4%**

Special thanks go to the following people:

Setup on Friday:

Ray Augustyniak	Dave Fredrick	Franklin Horney
Marty Braun	Warren Hartman	Bob Landis
Steve Chalk	Keon Hayes	James Marshalek
Jerry Cimildora	Larry Hill	Joe Miko
Kelly Ester	Richard Horner	Dave Vleck

Displays and Other Contributions

Jerry Cimildora – Skywarn display  
Dave Fredrick – Helping with setup, solar panels, electrical tie in  
Warren Hartman – Towers, Lights, cables, etc.  
Susan Landis – BBQ dinner and strawberry dessert for Saturday  
Bob Landis – Cookies, coffee pot, and computer setup  
Georgeann Vleck Lynch - Aero ARC's PR display

Again, thanks to all who came and helped out in any capacity, whether operating or other supporting modes.

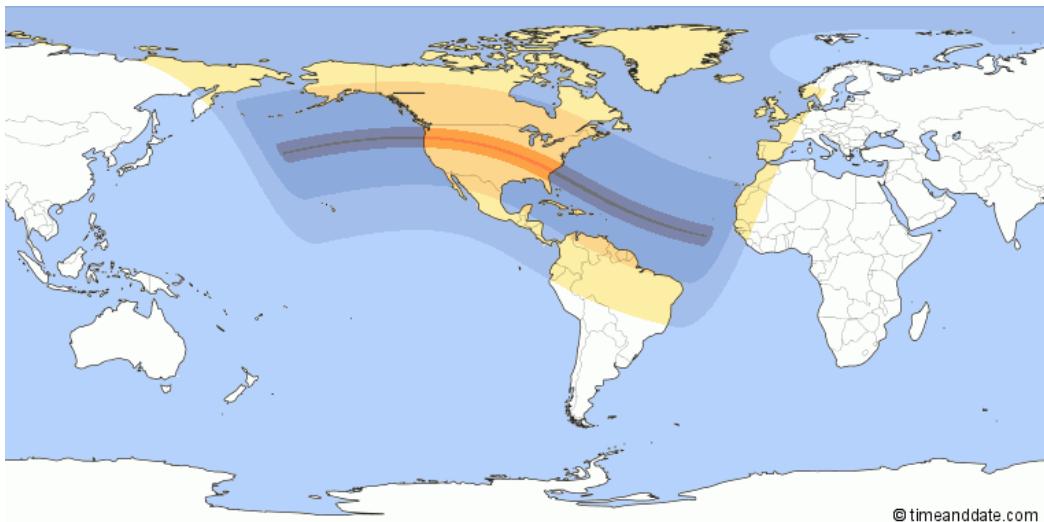
Thanks to all who helped make this a safe and successful Field Day event.

*Joe Miko  
WB3FMT*

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# Reminder



## August 21, 2017 — Great American Eclipse (Total Solar Eclipse)

The total phase of this total solar eclipse will be visible from a narrow path spanning all across the USA from the East Coast to the West Coast, weather permitting.

Monday, August 21, 2017 at 2:42 pm

Global Type: Total Solar Eclipse

Baltimore: Partial Solar Eclipse

Begins: Mon, Aug 21, 2017 at 1:18 pm

Maximum: Mon, Aug 21, 2017 at 2:42 pm

Ends: Mon, Aug 21, 2017 at 4:01 pm

Duration: 2 hours, 43 minutes

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## NET REPORTS

### 6-14-17: 28.445 MHz, 20:00 to 20:30 local.

W3PGA NCS Joe Essex, KC3HXL Joel Essex, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, KB3VAE Rich Middle River, KC3FBL Jim Parkville

### 6-28-17: 147.240 MHz, 20:00 to 20:39 local.

W3PGA Joe NCS Essex, KB3VAE Rich Middle River, KC3FBM Franklin Parkville, KC3FBL Jim Parkville, N3VBJ Jerry Towson, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, AA3BR Peter Timonium, N3RES Ray Lutherville, N1TTX Don Baltimore City, KC3HXL Joel Essex (10 members on the net)

Ray N3RES upgraded to General at the FD test session.

Don N1TTX upgraded to Extra at the FD test session.

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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>
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*

We are scheduled to test on Sunday, September 10th at 1:15PM at White Marsh Library. Take care & God bless.

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## *UPCOMING HAMFESTS and EVENTS*

### **Sunday, August 6, 2017: 67th Annual Berryville Hamfest**

Sponsor: Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds, 890 West Main Street, Berryville, VA 22611

Website: [www.shenvalarc.org/hamfest](http://www.shenvalarc.org/hamfest)

Contact: Thomas Brownlee, AF2D, 744 Gafia Lodge Road, Middletown, VA 22645, Phone: 540-869-7065, E-mail: [af2d@arrl.net](mailto:af2d@arrl.net)

### **Saturday, September 9, 2017: Virginia Section Convention (Virginia Beach Hamfest)**

Virginia Beach Convention Center, 1000 19th Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23450

Website: [vbhamfest.com](http://vbhamfest.com)

Sponsor: Tidewater Radio Conventions

Talk-In: 146.970 (CTCSS: 141.3 Hz), W4KXV Virginia Beach Repeater

Contact: Carl Clements, W4CAC, 4500 Wake Forest Rd., Portsmouth, VA 23703, Phone: 757-235-4813,

E-mail: [w4cac@cox.net](mailto:w4cac@cox.net)

### **Sunday, October 1, 2017: CARA Fest**

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

Website: [www.carafest.org](http://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](mailto:info@carafest.org)

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

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

Website: [pgares.org/santafest/](http://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](mailto: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](http://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@haml Tongraphics.com](mailto:herb@haml Tongraphics.com)

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

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

#### **Open Cockpit: Saturday, July 8, 9 am – 1 pm**

Open Cockpit days provide visitors the opportunity to sit in the pilot seats of the Museum's outdoor airplanes. A new element to the June Open Cockpit Day is a **flea market**, opening at 8am, and featuring household items, arts and crafts, fashion, services and community organizations.

**Shuttle buses to the flightline** begin at 9:15am with the last bus departing at 12:00 pm. Food vendors will be on site.

The Martin Aviation Museum is located at 701 Wilson Point Road, Middle River 21220.

In the event of rain, the Open Cockpit segment will be cancelled. Admission for this special event is \$5 for adults and \$1 for children. For additional information call 410-682-6122.

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# DID YOU KNOW ... ?

New technology available



# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for July 2017

*July 1<sup>st</sup>* – Jupiter is 3° S of the Moon

*July 3<sup>rd</sup>* - Earth is at aphelion 94,505,901 miles from the Sun at 16:00 EDT.

*July 4<sup>th</sup>* – Happy Birthday U.S.A. 241 years, also Crab Nebula (M1) explodes on this day in 1054 A.D.

*July 7<sup>th</sup>* – Saturn is 3° S of the Moon.

*July 9<sup>th</sup>* - Full Moon “Buck” for the Traditional American and the “Hay” for the English Full Moons.

*July 10<sup>th</sup>* – Mercury is 0.04° N of the Beehive cluster (M44).

*July 13<sup>th</sup>* – Neptune is 0.9° N of the Moon.

*July 16<sup>th</sup>* – Last Quarter Moon.

*July 20<sup>th</sup>* – Aldebaran is 0.4° S of the Moon, 48 years ago (1969) man first stepped on the Moon, USA's Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin)

*July 23<sup>rd</sup>* – New Moon

*July 25<sup>th</sup>* – Regulus is 0.07° S of the Moon.

*July 26<sup>th</sup>* – Regulus is 1.0° upper right of Mercury.

*July 30<sup>th</sup>* – First Quarter Moon

## Planet Lookout at mid-Month

**Sunrise 05:52 EDT and Sunset 20:31 EDT**

**Mercury** Eve sets at 21:48, mag -0.1, 6.1 arc sec.

**Venus** Dawn rises 03:01 mag -4.1, 16.1 arc sec

**Mars** Eve, sets 20:47, mag +1.7 and 3.5 arc sec.

**Jupiter** Eve sets 00:17, mag -2.0 size 35.8 arc sec.

**Saturn** Eve sets 03:46, mag 0.0 size 18.1 arc sec.

**Uranus** Morn rises 00:42, mag 5.9, size 3.3 arc sec.

**Neptune** Eve rises 22:52, magnitude +7.9 size 2.4 arc sec.

## Ophiuchus ... unlucky 13

According to the boundaries for the constellations adopted by the International Astronomical Union in 1921, there are 13 signs of the zodiac instead of the usual 12; time from Ophiuchus the snake handler is usually included in time given to Scorpius. When the Sun is in that constellation:

*Scorpius* November 21 to November 29  
*Ophiuchus* November 30 to December 17  
*Sagittarius* December 18 to January 18

If you already know your astrological sign from reading an astrology column in a newspaper or from consultation with an astrologer, you may be surprised that few of these dates correspond to the dates listed in the newspaper's astrological column. Why? Generally, listed astrological signs and the dates given by most astrologers assume that you were born around 140 AD.

The Planet Pluto was not discovered until 1930 AD, 1790 years later. It took a little while to make up attributes and be accepted by astrologers. But adding a additional sign is big trouble.

The number 12 is favored because it is easy to divide. The four "elements" are alternated evenly. So do the Cardinal, Fixed, and Mutable modes alternate? But, thirteen (13) is a prime number so that would mess a lot of things up. If there were only 11 signs it would be no good as well. Can't have back to back fire and Cardinal signs. Might be better to eliminate Scorpio and replace it with Ophiuchus. But, that is not going to happen either.

If you look at any star chart, you will see that the narrow path that the planets and the Sun move along, called the Ecliptic, passes through the 12 classical zodiacal constellations, plus it comes within 1/2 degree of the northern corner of Orion, 1/4 degree from the north west corner of Cetus, 1 degree from the north east corner of Sextans, and the entire southern quadrant of Ophiuchus from Ra = 16h 20m to 17h 40m.

By the way, the dates that are given for your astrological sun-sign are supposed to indicate when the sun will be in that constellation during the year. In fact, when you think that you are a 'Sagittarius' you are in fact a Capricorn because the Sun is in this constellation during those dates. Astrologers don't care, and no one listens to astronomers when they say that astrology is fallacy masquerading as fact!