



The Aero Aerial

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
 Middle River, MD
 Volume 15, Issue 9
 September 2019

Editor Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

Officers

President	Joe Miko WB3FMT
Vice-President	Rob Ballou KC3ROB
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Corresponding Secretary	Pat Stone AC3F
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VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
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Club Nets	Joe Miko WB3FMT
Contests	Bob Venanzi ND3D

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 – 70 Centimeters (449.575 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m. Local Time
Fourth Wednesday Net – 2 Meters (147.24 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m. Local Time
Fifth Wednesday Net – 10 Meters (28.445 MHz) @ 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.

2019 Examination Schedule

Time:	1:15 pm	1:15 pm	
Dates:	Sunday, Sept. 22	Sunday, Nov. 10	
Where:	White Marsh Library	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)

Upcoming Aero Club Events

Saturday, September 14: Essex Skypark Wings and Wheels Fly-In

This event has airplanes and vintage cars on display. There are aircraft rides for a fee, and food for sale. The Aero Club will also set up a communications display, running a radio, and information on Skywarn. We also need Aero member support for this event to staff and setup and breakdown. Cost is \$5.00 a carload.

Training and Practice

Thursday, September 5: Technician Licensing Course

Class begin Sept. 5 and runs for 7 weeks, 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Location: National Electronics Museum, 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090

Textbook: ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 4th Edition (available at Amazon)

Contact: Rol Anders, K3RA, roland.anders@comcast.net, 410-796-4792.

Courses for General and Extra Licensing follow, according to interest.

MSN CW TRAINING NET

The net operates nightly at 1930L on 3563 kHz. Ron, N3AEA, is the Net Manager.

Source: MDC Section News, Vol. 15, No. 08, Friday, August 16, 2019

Public Service Opportunity

Saturday, Sept. 28: Susquehanna River Running Festival

Comms provided by: Harford County ARES

Tydings Park, Havre de Grace

Half Marathon: A scenic half marathon through City of Havre de Grace, over the Hatem Bridge, through Town of Perryville, around Perry Point and back.

Half Marathon Relay: A two person relay on the half marathon course. Relay leg one 6.1 miles, relay leg two 7.0 miles.

10-Kilometer: A new 10K for 2019. The course will follow the last 6.2 miles of the half marathon course. All participants will be bused to the start at the Perry Point VAMC.

5-Kilometer: An awesome 5k within the limits of the historic City of Havre de Grace.

Website: Susquehanna River Running Festival (SRRF).

NOTE: Carlton Wolfe, K3BYC, Administrative Assistant, Harford County ARES/RACES needed about 6 more volunteers. Interested hams should send an email to harfordaresraces@gmail.com

<https://harfordemcomm.org/activities/2019-susquehanna-river-running-festival>

Hamfests

Saturday, Sept 7, 2019: Virginia Beach Hamfest and Convention

Virginiaa Beach Convention Center, 1000 19th Street Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Hours: 9 am – 4 pm (8:30 am – early bird ticket holders, 9 am - general public)

Talk-in: 146.895 Repeater PL: 141.3

Tickets: Early Bird \$9, at the door \$10

Sponsor: Tidewater Radio Convention, Inc.

- 9am – noon - VE Testing sessions – walk-ins welcome
- Forums throughout the day
- Grand prize drawing at 3pm
- Fun dollars every hour given away
- Computer Show
- Regional Command Truck and VDEM Radio Cache Team (if no emergency arises)

Purchase of 10 tickets gets you a FREE TABLE to sell equipment.

For more information, go to www.virginiabeachhamfest.com or contact:

Douglas Duggan, N4IRK, 757-416-8782, PIO – VBARC/VB HAMFEST, Douglas.duggan@verizon.net

Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019: 7th Annual TailgateFest, 8 am – 12 pm (Rain or Shine)

Hollywood Volunteer Fire Dept. Bingo Hall, 24801 Three Notch Rd. (MD RT 235), Hollywood, MD 20636

Sponsor: St. Mary's Co. Amateur Radio Assoc.

Admission: Free

Amateur Radio & Electronic Equipment; VE Test session 9 am – 12 pm, \$14

Tables: Indoor Reserved \$10, Outdoor Tailgate \$5

To reserve a table please email Chuck Gantz at k3wjx@yahoo.com

Reserved indoor table payment must be received by Sept. 27, 2019

Refreshments: Coffee, donuts and food vendor on site

To view or print original TailgateFest Flyer please click below:

<http://www.k3hki.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/7th-ANNUAL-TailgateFest.pdf>

Sunday, Oct. 6, 2019: 2019 CARA Fest, gates open 6 am for tailgaters, 8am for the public

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

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

Sponsor: Columbia Amateur Radio Association

\$7 admission

No-fee VE testing

Talk-In: 147.390/R+ (PL 156.7)

Public Contact: David Parkison , KB3VDY, P.O. Box 911 Columbia , MD 21044, 410-977-1249

Email: vendorsales@carafest.org

Sunday, Oct 27, 2019: Mason Dixon Hamfest/Convention

Location: Sportsman's Hall Roller Skating Center, 15500 Hanover Pike, Upperco, MD 21155

Sponsor: Carroll County Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 145.410 (PL 114.8)

RAFFLE FIRST PRIZE: Completed and compliant uBITX radio

Admission: \$5 per entry/tailgate space

Website: <https://k3pzn.net/hamfest/>

Public Contact: Rich Mitchell, N3III, 1722 Brooks Rd., Freeland, MD 21053, 443-280-1871

Email: n3iipa@gmail.com

Saturday, Dec. 7, 2019: 4th Annual SantaFest, 8:30 am – 12 pm

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

Sponsor: American Legion, Prince George's County Emergency Radio Association

Talk-In: K3ERA Repeater 145.230 PL 110.9

Admission: \$6

VE Exams: 9 am to 11 am (Walk-ins must sign in no later than 10:30)

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

For information, or to reserve table and/or tailgate space, contact: selbynet@hotmail.com

NET REPORTS

8-14-19: 449.575 MHz, 20:00 to 20:22 local.

W3PGA NCS Joe Essex, AC3F Pat Middle River, KC3FBM Franklin Parkville, KB3JVP Ken Middle River

4 members on the net.

8-28-19: 147.24 MHz, 20:00 to 20:27 local.

W3PGA NCS Joe Essex, KC3FBM Franklin Parkville, AC3DX Bill Rosedale, AC3F Patricia Middle River, KB3VAE Richard Middle River, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, AC3EO Dave Baltimore City, Wa3QLY Tom Joppatowne

8 members on the net.



VE CORNER

by Pat Stone, AC3F

Our next test session will be held on Sunday, September 22nd, at 1:15pm at the White Marsh Library. Hope to see you then.

Feature Article

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT

Lou Smith, KC 3 NMT

We've all heard that said before, so why shouldn't it be true of amateur radio? Well, it is.

I'm going to mention a few apps here. I am an iPhone user, but I'm sure there are probably the same apps available for Android users, or if not the identical ones, go search on the Google Play store, and see what you find.

REPEATER Book

The company has a website, but they have a really convenient app. It will let you search for repeaters on all bands, conventional as well as digital modes. You can set your search criteria. You'll get the call sign, location, frequency, and other operating parameters necessary to use the repeaters. I've found this useful when travelling, as well as finding out about repeaters in the area.

MORSE-IT

For those who want to improve their proficiency in using code or learning it, this is a relatively inexpensive app. It will send you code, and you can send back through it. All the parameters including speed and frequency of the oscillator are adjustable. Letters are presented in a variety of learning styles. There are several other features to this app worth noting, also. I had difficulty accessing the developer's website. Hopefully this was a temporary problem at the time of this writing.

SCANNER RADIO

This is an app useful if you want to monitor the public service bands, as well as some repeaters. It is free.

From Digital Trends:

Scanner Radio lets you browse a variety of channels worldwide, view the top 50 scanners and recently added scanners, and target your specific location. You can also find public safety, air traffic, and marine scanners with the app. You can receive notifications when major events or emergencies take place, and it supports Android Auto. The \$3 pro version removes ads, includes push notifications, and offers the ability to record audio.

QRZ AMATEUR CALLSIGN LOOKUP

From the App Store:

Search the exhaustive QRZ.COM call sign database from your mobile device. Instant access to more than 1.2 million amateur radio call signs from around the world. Completely free with no subscription required. Universal version designed for both the iPhone and iPad.

Features:

- * Complete license holder information
- * Interactive map with beam heading and distance (on supported devices)
- * Displays profile photo (if uploaded to QRZ.COM)
- * Display biography (if updated on QRZ.COM)
- * Send email to the displayed contact
- * Call sign lookup history
- * Access to QRZ.COM website from within the application
- * No advertising or user tracking

The information displayed in this app is provided by QRZ.COM.

So, there you have it. A few apps to get you started. There are lots of them out there, so have fun looking them up.

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for September 2019



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Sept 6th – First Quarter Moon

Sept 8th - Saturn is 0.04° N of the Moon 14:00 UT

Sept 9th - Pluto is 0.08° S of the Moon 3:00 UT

Sept 10th - Neptune is at Opposition 08:00 UT

Sept 14th - “Full Harvest” Moon, for Traditional and the “Moon when calves grow hair” for the Dakota Sioux American Indian.

Sept 22nd - Last Quarter Moon and is 2.0° S of M35, Open Cluster in Gemini 09:00 UT

Sept 23rd - Fall Equinox 07:50 UT (03:50 EDT)

Sept 24th – Moon 0.4° N in Beehive Cluster (M44) 22:00 EDT

Sept 26th – Zodiacal Light visible N Lat in East before Dawn’s light for the next two weeks

Sept 28th – New Moon

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 06:45 EDT and Sunset 19:18 EDT

Mercury Evening Rise 07:31 EDT, Sets 19:37 EDT;
Mag - 0.8 and 4.8 arc seconds.

Venus Evening Rise 07:26 EDT, Sets 19:35 EDT,
Mag -3.9, Arc Sec 9.9

Mars Morning Rise 06:22 EDT, Sets 19:00 EDT,
Mag 1.8, Arc Sec 3.5

Jupiter Evening, rises 13:36 EDT, Sets 23:11 EDT;
Mag-2.1 size 37.4 arc seconds.

Saturn Evening. Rises 15:34 EDT Sets 01:13 EDT;
Mag 0.4 size 17.3 seconds.

Uranus Evening 20:56 EDT Sets 10:24 EDT;
Mag 5.7 size 3.6 arc seconds.

Neptune Morning Rises 18:53 EDT Sets 06:24 EDT;
Mag 7.8 size 2.5 arc seconds

Solar experts predict the Sun’s activity in Solar Cycle 25 to be below average, similar to Solar Cycle 24

April 5, 2019 - Scientists charged with predicting the Sun’s activity for the next 11-year solar cycle say that it’s likely to be weak, much like the current one. The current solar cycle, Cycle 24, is declining and predicted to reach solar minimum - the period when the Sun is least active - late in 2019 or 2020.



Solar Cycle 25 Prediction Panel experts said Solar Cycle 25 may have a slow start but is anticipated to peak with solar maximum occurring between 2023 and 2026, and a sunspot range of 95 to 130. This is well below the average number of sunspots, which typically ranges from 140 to 220 sunspots per solar

cycle. The panel has high confidence that the coming cycle should break the trend of weakening solar activity seen over the past four cycles.

“We expect Solar Cycle 25 will be very similar to Cycle 24: another fairly weak cycle, preceded by a long, deep minimum,” said panel co-chair Lisa Upton, Ph.D., solar physicist with Space Systems Research Corp. “The expectation that Cycle 25 will be comparable in size to Cycle 24 means that the steady decline in solar cycle amplitude, seen from cycles 21-24, has come to an end and that there is no indication that we are currently approaching a Maunder-type minimum in solar activity.”

Solar Cycle 24 reached its maximum - the period when the Sun is most active - in April 2014 with a peak average of 82 sunspots. The Sun’s Northern Hemisphere led the sunspot cycle, peaking over two years ahead of the Southern Hemisphere sunspot peak.



For the latest space weather forecast, visit <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>