



## *The Aero Aerial*

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Aero-Amateur-Radio-lub/719248141439348>

# About the Aero Amateur Radio Club

## Meetings

The Aero Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 pm on the first and third Wednesday of the month at the Essex SkyPark, 1401 Diffendall Road, Essex. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. local time. Meetings 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,PL 123.0

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.

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

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

Examination sessions are throughout the year. Walk-ins are welcome; arrive after start time. \$15 charge.

2022 Examination Schedule DUE TO COVID-19 DATES May be **Canceled**

Time:	12 pm <b>new Time</b>	12 pm
Dates:	January 15	March 19
	May 19	June 25 @ Skypark
	Sept 24	Nov 12

American Legion Post 180, 1331 Seling Ave., Rosedale, MD 21237

Contact: Patricia Stone AC3F, email: [ac3fac3p@yahoo.com](mailto:ac3fac3p@yahoo.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	449.575	Aero ARC Net
4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	8 pm	147.240	Aero ARC Net
5 <sup>th</sup> Wed	8 pm	28.445	Aero ARC Net
Fridays	7:30 pm	145.330	Back in the Day Net
When activated by NOAA		147.030	SkyWarn (primary)

## Repeater News

Both Repeaters are operational again. A new controller radio was installed and the knock-down and start-up sequences were tested and are operational. Each repeater has its own control separate key sequence.

The two-meter repeater now operates in either Analog FM or Fusion C4FM. The 440 repeater will only operate in either Analog or Fusion but not in an Auto Mode., so it was set to the Analog FM mode.

### DEC 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting "Meet and Greet"

The December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a Meet and Greet no formal meeting. Just a gathering of folks to say HI have some coffee and some cookies. If you would like to bring a little something feel free. The get together starts at 7:30pm. Hope to see you all then.

## A Christmas Tail by Gary KN4AQ.

Yes, it's a Christmas poem. But I offer it in the spirit of the holiday season to all, whatever you believe or celebrate. In a troubled world, this is a time when we remind ourselves that peace is the goal. I hope we find it soon. **Gary Pearce KN4AQ**

**T**was the night before Christmas,  
And all through two-meters,  
Not a signal was keying up  
Any repeaters.

**The antennas reached up  
From the tower, quite high,  
To catch the weak signals  
That bounced from the sky.**

**The children, Technicians,  
Took their HT's to bed,  
And dreamed of the day  
They'd be Extras, instead.**

**Mom put on her headphones,  
I plugged in the key,**

And we tuned 40 meters  
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged  
By a signal with power.  
It smoked a small diode,  
And, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,  
And with all she could muster  
Logged a spot of the signal  
On the DX Packet Cluster,

While I ran to the window  
And peered up at the sky,  
To see what could generate  
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,  
But the moon made it gleam -  
A flying sleigh,  
With an eight-element beam,

And a little old driver  
Who looked slightly mean,  
So I thought for a moment  
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa,  
The Santa of Hams,  
On a mission this Christmas  
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,  
Then stopped in his track,  
And he slid down the coax  
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid  
Behind stacks of *CQ*,  
This Santa of hamming  
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk  
Of paper and parts,

And filled out all my late  
QSLs, for a start.

He ran copper braid,  
Took a steel rod and pounded  
It into the earth  
Till the station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,  
Resoldered connections,  
Cranked down modulation,  
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes  
In my linear amp...  
(Never worked right before –  
Now it works like a champ).

A new low-pass filter  
Cleaned up the TV.  
He corrected the settings  
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer  
That wouldn't compute,  
And he backed up the hard drive  
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep  
In the bag that he brought,  
And he pulled out a big box.  
"A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom?  
A Yaesu, for me?  
An Elecraft, TEN-TEC  
Or Flex, could it be!"  
(If he thought I'd been bad  
It might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate station!  
How could I deserve this?  
Could it be all those weekends  
I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up  
And in record time, quickly

**Worked 100 countries,  
All down on 160.**

**I should have been happy.  
It was *my* call he sent.  
But the cards and the postage  
Will cost a month's rent!**

**He made final adjustments,  
And left a card by the key:  
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.  
Seventy-Three."**

**Then he grabbed his HT,  
Looked me straight in the eye,  
Punched a code on the pad,  
And was gone - no goodbye.**

**I ran back to the station,  
And the pile up was big.  
But a card from St. Nick  
Would be worth my new rig.**

**Oh, too late, for his final  
Came over the air.  
It was copied all over.  
It was heard everywhere.**

**The Ham's Santa exclaimed  
What an old ham expects:  
"Merry Christmas to all,  
And to all, good DX."**

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A Christmas warning. If you are getting you daughter a Hippo for Christmas, remember the load bearing factor of your deck.

