



# ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
Volume 18, Issue 3  
March 2022

Editor Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

## ***Officers***

President	Joe Miko WB3FMT
Vice-President	Rob Ballou AE3B
Recording Secretary	Larry Hill KB3QWC
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Stone AC3F
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VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
Public Service	Bob Landis WA3SWA
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Trustee:	Dave Fredrick KB3KRV (W3PGA) Jim Marshalek KC3FBL (AE3RO)
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.

### 2022 Examination Schedule

Time:	12 noon	12 noon	
Dates:	Saturday, March 19		
Where:	American Legion, Rosedale	American Legion, Rosedale	

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

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	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)

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## Net Reports

**2-9-22: 440 net, 20:00 thru 20:12 local.**

NCS Joe W3PGA Essex, K3DON Don Joppatowne, AC3F Pat Middle River  
3 members on the net

**2-23-22: 2 meter net, 20:00 thru 20:17 local.**

NCS Joe W3PGA Essex, K3DON Don Joppatowne, N3FQC Don Perry Hall  
3 members on the net

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## HAM NEWS

### **ARRL Seeks Exemption from Proposed US Forest Service Communication Facility Fees; Comment Period Open until March 31**

ARRL has filed [comments](#) with the US Forest Service (USFS) seeking an exemption for amateur radio facilities to a proposed new \$1,400 annual administrative fee. The USFS proposal resulted from requirements in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (aka "the Farm Bill"), which directs the Forest Service to collect fees for issuing communications use authorizations based on the cost to the agency for processing the applications, maintenance, and other related activities. The proposed fee is a new and separate fee, not an increase to fees, such as rent, already being paid. If adopted, the existing fee(s) -- which generally have been around \$130 - 140 annually for amateur uses -- would have to be paid *in addition to* the new proposed annual administrative fee of \$1400.



The comment filing window has been re-opened, and additional comments will be accepted through March 31. Any radio amateurs missing the first comment period or wishing to add to their earlier comments are encouraged to do so during this additional period.

"Although the discussion put forward by the Forest Service in its proposal focuses on commercial uses, the proposal would sweep within its requirements amateur radio uses that are solely noncommercial," ARRL said in comments filed on February 22. "Radio amateurs establish and maintain facilities at certain locations for public service purposes with no remuneration or reimbursement. Unlike broadcasters and commercial wireless and fiber providers, radio amateurs are uniquely barred by the terms of their federal licenses from receiving compensation of any sort."

"Non-commercial and uncompensated communication uses by radio amateurs within Forest Service areas long have served the public interest in many ways, among them by providing the means for otherwise unobtainable emergency communication capabilities in times of need," ARRL noted.

"Amateurs perform this valuable public service without cost to taxpayers. The importance of these capabilities [has] been demonstrated repeatedly. The skills of amateur operators have served our country well with their carefully located equipment when enabling exchanges of possibly life-saving messages in difficult terrain during forest fires, extending communications assistance help during hurricanes, and providing communications capabilities during search-and-rescue missions in remote areas." ARRL stressed that equipment, maintenance, and other costs associated with amateur radio facilities on USFS lands "are borne solely by the volunteer radio amateurs themselves."



**US Forest Service Communication Use sites. [Photo courtesy of US Forest Service]**

ARRL continued, "Commercial applicants usually request more extensive use of the lands administered by the Forest Service, and these requests necessarily result in more complex issues having to be considered and resolved."

"It is foreseeable that many radio amateurs providing these services would have to opt to withdraw and cease their work," if not exempted from the proposed fees, ARRL said. "In many cases the most useful locations for needed coverage from their stations is uniquely on Forest Service lands. In short, the proposal to include volunteer uncompensated amateur service

applicants with the commercial wireless service and broadcast applicants is grossly inequitable. There is a disparity in the amount of resources necessary to consider applications from radio amateurs as compared to that required by commercial applicants."

"[O]ur best estimate is that there are fewer than 100 covered amateur locations, but those likely are unique and essential to covering forested areas in times of need, such as forest fires or lost hikers," ARRL said. "These dissimilarities in complexity and scope should be recognized in this fees proposal and amateur radio applications exempted."

*Source: The ARRL Letter for March 3, 2022*



## **VE CORNER**

*by Pat Stone, AC3F*

The AERO VE Team held its first session of 2022 on January 22nd. We served 3 applicants. Congratulations to new General Kevin N3NFU and new Techs Ted

KC3TLJ and Garrett KC3TLI .

Many thanks to VE's: WB3FMT, WA3QLY, N3RES, N3FQC and AC3EO for assisting me with this session. We couldn't do this without you. Hope to see you in March. It's always a joy working with you.

Our next test session will be held on Saturday, March 19th at 12:00 noon at the American Legion Post 180 in Rosedale. Hope to see you then.

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## ***Hamfests***

### **Sunday, March 27, 2022: Winterfest, ARRL Virginia Section Convention**

Location: Northern Virginia Community College Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003

Website: <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest/>

Sponsor: Vienna Wireless Society

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 146.685 MHz Repeater (neg offset, 110.9Hz CTCSS)

Public Contact: Mike Aimone , WA8AHZ, 4835 Powell Rd. Fairfax VA, 22032, Phone: 703-870-1730,

Email: [dontay155@gmail.com](mailto:dontay155@gmail.com)

### **Saturday, April 23, 2022: Delmarva Amateur Radio & Electronics Expo, ARRL Delaware State Convention Rain or shine**

Location: Cheer Community Center, 20520 Sand Hill Rd., Georgetown , DE 19947

Website: <http://www.radioelectronicsexpo.com>

Sponsor: Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Talk-In: 147.090 156.7

Public Contact: Jamie Ashton , W3UC, 7446 Parker St. Pittsville, MD 21850, Phone: 410-202-7690,

Email: [DelawareHamfest@gmail.com](mailto:DelawareHamfest@gmail.com)

Admission: \$6, under 18 free -- CHINESE AUCTION, RAFFLE

Schedule: 0600 Gates open, 0730 Tailgating, 0800 Indoor expo venue opens, 1200 pm FCC Testing NO FEE. Walk-ins OK, 1230 pm last test seating

Restaurant available

Host Hotel: Tru Hotel by Hilton, 301 College Park Drive, Georgetown DE 19947, Phone: 302-515-2100. Website: [www.Hilton.com](http://www.Hilton.com)

Smaller than HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, but prices reasonable. Short walk from parking.

### **Sunday, April 24, 2022: Maryland Mobileers Spring Hamfest**

Location: Odenton Volunteer Fire Company, 1425 Annapolis Road, Odenton, MD 21113

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/marylandmobileers/hamfest?authuser=0>

Sponsor: Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.805/107.2

Public Contact: Bruce McPherson , AB3AC, 484 Peach Leaf Ct Odenton, MD 21113, Phone: 410-456-2500, Email: [BMCPHERSON73@VERIZON.NET](mailto:BMCPHERSON73@VERIZON.NET)

### **Saturday, April 30, 2022: York Hamfest**

Location: Elicker's Grove Park, 511 Roth Church Rd., Spring Grove, PA 17362

Website: <http://yorkhamfest.org>

Sponsor: York Hamfest Foundation

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.330+ PL123.0

Public Contact: Duane Sterner , KB3QLQ, 7197 Hershey Rd. Spring Grove, PA 17362, Phone: 717 332-1385, Email: [duane.sterner@yahoo.com](mailto:duane.sterner@yahoo.com)

### **Sunday, May 1, 2022: Warminster ARC Hamfest, ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention**

Location: Bucks County Community College-Lower Bucks Campus, 1304 Veteran Hwy (Rte.413) Bristol, PA 19007 [North of Philadelphia off I-95]

Website: <http://www.k3dn.org/hamfest/>

Sponsor: Warminster ARC

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 147.09+ (131.8)

Public Contact: George Brechmann , N3HBT, PO Box 113 Warminster, PA 18974, Phone: 267-702-4355, Email: [n3hbt@comcast.net](mailto:n3hbt@comcast.net)

### **Saturday, June 4, 2022: Manassas Hamfest 2022**

Location: Manassas Park Recreation Center, 99 Adams St., Manassas Park, VA

Website: <http://www.manassashamfest.com>

Sponsor: W4OVH Ole Virginia Hams

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.970 No PL

Public Contact: Don Meyerhoff , WA2SWX, PO Box 1255 Manassas, VA 20108-1255, Phone: 703-597-3211, Email: [wa2swxdm@gmail.com](mailto:wa2swxdm@gmail.com)

### **Sunday, June 19, 2022: Father's Day Hamfest at Arcadia**

Location: Arcadia Fairgrounds, 16920 Carnival Ave., Upperco, MD 21155

Website: <http://W3FT.com> Facebook Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Sponsor: BARC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.67 PL 107.2

Public Contact: David Shadwell , AB3TE, P.O.Box 120 Reisterstown, MD 21136, Phone: 410-252-2878, Email: [W3FT67@yahoo.com](mailto:W3FT67@yahoo.com)



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## MORE HAM NEWS

**"Low Power" in Major Contests Now a Uniform 100 Watts** - The ARRL has brought its definition of "low power" in its contests into line with most other sponsors of major contests, including CQ.

The ARRL has redefined what constitutes "low power" in its contests, reducing the maximum power level for the category from its long-standing 150 watts to the 100-watt level used by most other major contest sponsors, including CQ.

According to *Newsline*, the League made the change both to standardize its categories with other contests and in recognition of the fact that 100 watts is now the most common "barefoot" output power of current HF transceivers.

Posted by CQ Newsroom on Jan. 31, 2022 at 2:51 pm

<http://cqnewsroom.blogspot.com/search?updated-max=2022-01-31T15:02:00-08:00>

### Field Day is Coming-Start Planning Now

It is February and Field Day is just four months away. Has your club starting to planning? Now is the time to get the club together, however you are meeting, and plan for what I think is the best weekend of the ham year. Field Day can be a great opportunity to operate and have fun. It can also be a great chance to work with local authorities and demonstrate the capabilities - Earn extra Points - Set up an information table and a Get On The Air station - and get the new hams out for what is often their first real chance to work HF in a friendly contest-type environment. There are some updated rules and you can find them at <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-rules>. This site is updated often so check back for the latest. The most important thing is to have fun and enjoy Field Day. Invite the public, local dignitaries, and media. Field Day is a great photo op for police, firefighters, and EMS. Remember, outreach to the community is one of those things that we all need to be doing.

Source: ARRL Club News for February 22, 2022



### Lewis and Clark Trail On The Air



Clark County Amateur Radio Club, out of Vancouver, WA, will be hosting a new event to start June 2022. CCARC is an active club of over 400 members. It has also received the recognition of being an ARRL Special Services Club. The club has made a big impact on the amateur radio community in the Pacific Northwest. Lewis and Clark Trail OTA is being organized by a committee of CCARC members. The event will be from June 4-19, 2022. Lewis and Clark traveled through 16 states, and we're working on getting a club from each state to activate.

There will be certificates sent out for those that contact all 16, and another certificate for those that contact less than 16. We see this as a chance to promote the Lewis and Clark Expedition and honor them for their achievement by bringing them in to the amateur radio world of 2022. Mark your calendars for this special event and see how many contacts you can make.

[www.LCTOTA.org](http://www.LCTOTA.org) On Facebook: Lewis and Clark Trail On The Air

Source: ARRL Club News for February 22, 2022

# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for March 2022

*Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> - New Moon*

*Mar 5<sup>th</sup> - Jupiter is in conjunction with the Sun.*

*Mar 7<sup>th</sup> - Uranus 0.8° N of Moon 6UT, 01EST.*

*Mar 10<sup>th</sup> - First Quarter Moon*

*Mar 12<sup>th</sup> Venus 4° 14UT, 09EST.*

*Mar 13<sup>th</sup> - DST Starts*

*Mar 14<sup>th</sup> - Albert Einstein born 1879*

*Mar 18<sup>th</sup> - Full Moon, "Worm Moon" for Traditional and "Spring Moon" for the Passamaquoddy (Great Lakes) American Indian.*

*Mar 20<sup>th</sup> - - Zodiacal Light Vis in West after evening twilight for next 2 weeks, Also Equinox 15:33UT, 11:33EST.*

*Mar 23<sup>rd</sup> - First photo of the Moon in 1840.*

*Mar 25<sup>th</sup> - Last Quarter Moon*

## Planet Lookout at mid-Month

**Sunrise 07:13 EDT and Sunset 19:09 EDT**

**Mercury** Morning Rise 06:43 Set 17:48; Mag -0.5; Size 5.2 seconds

**Venus** Morning Rise 04:56, Sets 15:25 Mag -4.4 and 26.3 arc seconds.

**Mars** Morning Rises 05:07, Sets 15:09, Mag +1.2 and 4.9 arc seconds wide.

**Jupiter** Evening, rises 07:00, Sets 18:29, Mag-2.0 size 33 arc seconds.

**Saturn** Evening, rises 05:48, Sets 16:15, Mag+0.8 size 15.6 arc seconds.

**Uranus** Evening **Rises** 09:18 Sets 22:57; Mag +5.8 size 3.4 arc seconds.

**Neptune** Evening Rises 07:14 Sets 18:55; Mag +8 size 2.4 arc seconds.

## Meteor Terminology by the American Meteor Society

[www.amsmeteors.org](http://www.amsmeteors.org)

**Comet** – A solid body made of ice, rock dust and frozen gasses. As they fracture and disintegrate, some comets leave a trail of solid debris. *Nucleus (solid part): tens of kilometers, Tail: millions of kilometers.*

**Asteroid** – Small rocky, iron, or icy debris flying in space. *From 1 meter to hundreds of kilometers.*

**Meteoroid** – A small asteroid. *From microns to 1 meter.*

**Meteor** – The light emitted from a meteoroid or an asteroid as it enters the atmosphere.

**Meteor Shower** – An annual event, when the Earth passes through a region having a great concentration of debris, such as particles left by a comet. From Earth, it looks meteors radiate from the same point in the sky. *(This is called the Meteor Radiant Point)*

**Fireball** – A meteor brighter than the planet Venus. *(Venus's magnitude ranges from -4.9 to -3.8)*

**Bolide** – The light emitted by a large meteoroid or an asteroid as it explodes in the atmosphere.

**Meteorite** - A fragment of a meteoroid or an asteroid that survives passage through the atmosphere and hits the ground. *From a few grams to several dozens of tones.*

There are 11 meteor showers producing noticeable displays throughout the year. Meteor showers are named for the constellations from which they appear to radiate from. All but 1 of the 11 meteor radiant point constellations have a familiar name! The unique shower name is Quadrantid, taken from a Mural Quadrant created by French Astronomer Jerome Lalande in 1795. This now-obsolete constellation was located between Boötes the Herdsman and Draco the Dragon.

Shower Name	Date	Rate
1. Quadrantids	Jan 4 <sup>th</sup>	110
2. April Lyrids	Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup>	18
3. H Aquariids	May 5 <sup>th</sup>	50
4. S δ Aquariids	July 29 <sup>th</sup>	25
5. Perseids	Aug 12 <sup>th</sup>	100
6. Draconids	Oct 8 <sup>th</sup>	10
7. Orionids	Oct 24 <sup>th</sup>	20
8. N Taurids	Nov 12 <sup>th</sup>	5
9. Leonids	Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	15
10. Geminids	Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>	150
11. Ursids	Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10