

*May Constellations*

## ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
 Middle River, MD  
 Volume 18, Issue 5  
 May 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

Treasurer Warren Hartman W3JDF

Resource Coordinator Ron Distler W3JEH

Website: <http://w3pga.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Aero-Amateur-Radio-Club/719248141439348>

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Trustee: Dave Fredrick KB3KRV (W3PGA)  
 Jim Marshalek KC3FBL (AE3RO)

Club Nets Joe Miko WB3FMT

Contests Bob Venanzi ND3D

# 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:			
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)

## Net Reports

None received

### UPDATE FROM ANNAPOLIS – ANTENNA BILL

The following email came from Marty Pittinger on 4/11/22

Hello MDC members,

Please share with your Comms partners.

ARCs / Radio Opr / GMRS / ARES / MARS / RACES / CERT & Comms Partners,

08 APRIL 2022

Friday afternoon the Maryland Senate unanimously (47-0) passed HB-331, The Local Government - Regulation of Amateur Radio Station Antenna Structures. The Maryland House previously passed unanimously (127-0) in March. This Bill moves to Governor Hogan for signature.

See HB-331 info and details - <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Committees/Details?cmte=ehe>

Please drop me a note, and let's stay in touch for updates, Send email [mdc22hb331@earthlink.net](mailto:mdc22hb331@earthlink.net)

Be safe es well es On-the-Air 73,

Marty Pittinger KB3MXM  
Maryland / DC [MDC] Section Manager [SM]  
ARRL - American Radio Relay League

Some additional information from our club member

After three years trying to do so, **HB331 Local Government - Regulation of Amateur Radio Station Antenna Structures** – has finally passed. I was even given the opportunity to speak to the Senate subcommittee on behalf of Sponsors Delegate Boteler and Delegate Buckel. As of today, there was no formal signing ceremony for HB331, but it really does not need that to become law in October 2022.

Thanks to all of you who called, emailed, and sent testimony in support of this legislation. There was a good amount of calls made this time, as aides who answer the phones were already aware of the bill! Special thanks to MD Section Manager Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM, for coordinating efforts to keep the amateur community up to date and engaged.

Since then, several other states have reached out to us to help get their legislatures to enact the same law. I plan to reach out to them to expand its reach.

73s,  
Tom, N3TJR  
[n3tjr@arrl.org](mailto:n3tjr@arrl.org)



## VE CORNER

by Pat Stone, AC3F

No new information.

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## Hamfests

### **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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## HAM NEWS

### **Register to Log in to ARRL.ORG**

*If you haven't already done so...*

Follow these steps to sign in and access ARRL features and services: Go to [arrl.org](http://arrl.org) and click "Login" which will redirect you to "Register" (please note, even if you have an ARRL account you will need to register).

To register, enter the main e-mail address we have on file and click "Next." You will be prompted to create a user name and new password. Your password must contain at least eight characters, a number, an uppercase letter, a lowercase letter, and a non-alphanumeric character.

If you receive an e-mail verification one-time password request instead, you will receive an e-mail from Personify Identity Provider. Enter the one-time password, which will default your user name to the e-mail you used and prompt you to enter a new password twice. Click "Next."

This will log you in to [arrl.org](http://arrl.org), which now allows you to renew, donate, and shop all in one transaction.

If you need help, we're here for you. Call us Monday - Thursday from 8 am - 7 pm (ET) and on Friday from 8 am - 5 pm (ET) or e-mail us at [membership@arrl.org](mailto:membership@arrl.org).



*Source: The ARRL Letter for April 1, 2022*

## ARRL Benefits Include Answers to Your Questions

The ARRL Technical Information Service (TIS) and ARRL Lab complete some of the most important support for ARRL members, as well as for the benefit of all radio amateurs. The TIS is a member's resource for technical problems, understanding the fine points, and getting tips for your projects. Watch this introduction to the ARRL Lab and summary of services, featuring ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI. [Watch Video Now](#)

Ed and his team do amazing work for ARRL members every day and are available if you need help. For more information, check out the [TIS web page](#). If you are not an ARRL member and would like to learn more about membership benefits, [click here](#).

*Source: ARRL Club News for April 19, 2022*

**The 2022 Virtual Amateur Radio Workshop from the National Hurricane Conference has been posted to YouTube**, according to ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator Rob Macedo, KD1CY. "We appreciate everyone who attended the workshop live," said Macedo. "The attendance was higher than last year." Macedo added, "Thanks to all for their continued support of the Amateur Radio Hurricane Program led by WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center; Hurricane Watch Net; VoIP Hurricane Net; SATERN; ARRL; National Hurricane Center and Canadian Hurricane Center, as well as all the local [and] regional SKYWARN/CANWARN programs in the United States and Canada, and the various local groups that support us internationally." Watch the [YouTube](#) recording. Contact Macedo at [kd1cy@voipwx.net](mailto:kd1cy@voipwx.net) for additional information about the VoIP Hurricane Net.

*Source: The ARRL Letter for April 28, 2022*

## Using Phonetics to Improve Communications

Doug Mansor, WA8UWV, PCARS

If you've been a ham for a few years, you are probably aware of the phonetic alphabet and have used it or at least have heard it being used on the air. As a new ham, you might have encountered the phonetic alphabet while studying for the test but stashed it away in the back of your mind for later study if needed.

The phonetic alphabet we use as hams is sometimes referred to as the NATO phonetic alphabet, and is considered the standard for general use on the air. It consists of words that represent corresponding letters of the alphabet. It is important to use this standard to prevent being misunderstood on the air, such as when giving your call sign, location, or name to a rare DX station or any station under noisy conditions.

It may be fun to create a unique set of phonetics to represent your call sign, but that is not likely to improve communication. When the standard phonetics are used, you will eventually learn to associate that word with the corresponding letter. It's the same mechanism that is used to interpret Morse code. Instead of thinking of "dit dit dah dit" as the letter "F," you simply hear "F" when that code is presented. So, instead of hearing the word "bravo," you would actually hear the letter "B." If the other station uses nonstandard words to represent the letters in their call sign, you would have to take the time to think how each word is spelled and then what the first letter is. By the time you have accomplished all that, you will have missed the next two words (letters). For example, my call is WA8UWV. If I say, "Whiskey Alpha Eight Uniform Whiskey Victor," it would be readily understood. If I say, "We all ate ugly white vegetables," it would take a while to translate.

When checking into a net, the Net Control Station (NCS) is often required to report the call signs of stations reporting in. If a letter of the reporting station's call is misinterpreted, the NCS report will be incorrect. In regard to the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS) net, where ten check-ins for each week in a row will entitle you to a certificate, an error in reporting your call might cause a disqualification.

How easy is it for a letter to be misunderstood? I have often mistaken similar sounding letters. As an example, the following groups of letters tend to sound similar.

Sounds Alike: BCDEGPTVZ AJK QUW IY SX

This group of letters tend to have unique sounds and are less likely to be mistaken.

Unique Sounding: FHLMNOR

As you can see, more letters have the potential to be mistaken than not. The results are highly dependent on the enunciation practiced by the speaker and radio conditions.

*Source: ARRL Club News for April 19, 2022*

# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for May 2022

May 2<sup>nd</sup> - Mercury is 1.8° 14UT, 10 EDT

May 4<sup>th</sup> Ceres (Minor Planet) 0.01° 14UT, 10 EDT

May 5<sup>th</sup> - USA's Alan Shepard first American in Space in Freedom 7, in 1961.

May 6<sup>th</sup> n Aquariid meteor peak, 8UT, 04 EDT

May 8<sup>th</sup> - First Quarter Moon

May 16<sup>th</sup> - Full Moon, "Flower Moon for Traditional and "Alewife Moon" for the Passamaquoddy (Great Lakes Tribes). Also a Total Lunar Eclipse.

May 17<sup>th</sup> - Mars 0.6° S of Neptune 23UT, 19 EDT

May 22<sup>nd</sup> - Last Quarter Moon

May 30<sup>th</sup> - New Moon

May 31<sup>st</sup> - Possible meteor shower from comet 73P/Schwassmann/Wachmann. Look North towards Arcturus at about 1 am EDT.

### Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 05:54 EDT and Sunset 20:04 EDT

**Mercury** Evening Rise 07:00 Set 20:45; Mag+3.8;- Size 11.4 arc seconds.

**Venus** Morning 04:11, Sets 16:42 Mag -4.0 and 15.2 arc seconds.

**Mars** Morning Rises 03:16, Sets 14:55, Mag +0.8 and 6.0 arc seconds wide.

**Jupiter** Morning, rises 03:34, Sets 15:34, Mag-2.2 size 35.8 arc seconds.

**Saturn** Morning, 02:01, Sets 07:19, Mag+0.8 size 16.9 arc seconds.

**Uranus** Evening Rises 05:28 Sets 19:13; Mag +5.8 size 3.4 arc seconds.

**Neptune** Morning Rises 03:19 Sets 15:05; Mag +8 size 2.4

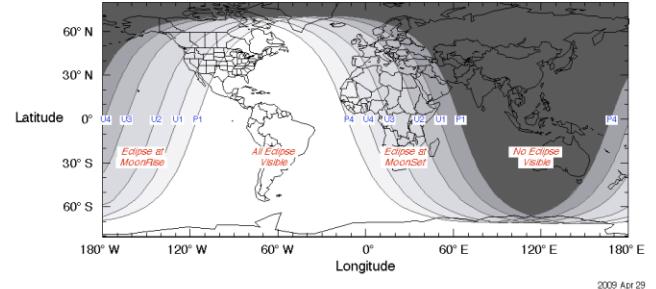
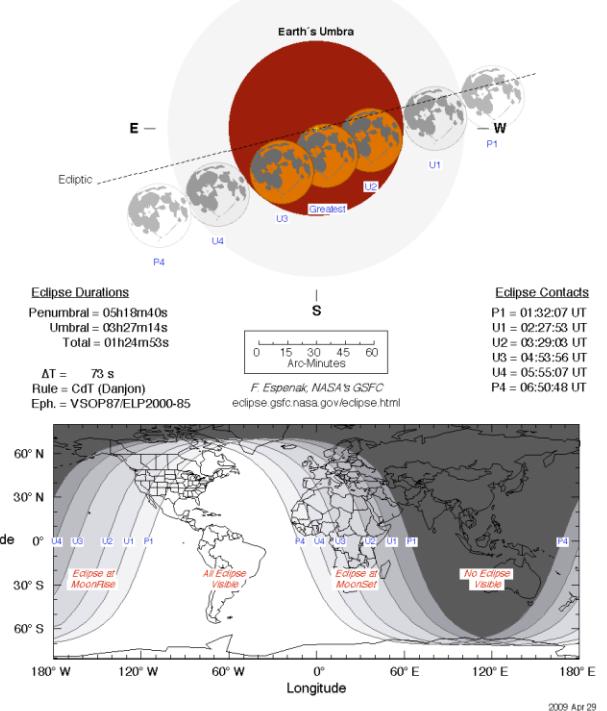
## May 15-16 Total Lunar Eclipse

### Total Lunar Eclipse of 2022 May 16

Ecliptic Conjunction = 04:15:18.8 TD (= 04:14:06.0 UT )  
 Greatest Eclipse = 04:12:41.6 TD (= 04:11:28.8 UT )  
 Penumbral Magnitude = 2.3726 P. Radius = 1.2854° Gamma = -0.2532  
 Umbral Magnitude = 1.4137 U. Radius = 0.7580° Axis = 0.2555°  
 Saros Series = 131 Member = 34 of 72

Sun at Greatest Eclipse  
 (Geocentric Coordinates)  
 R.A. = 03h31m49.5s  
 Dec. = +19°05'13.4"°  
 S.D. = 00°15'49.2"°  
 H.P. = 00°00'08.7"°

Moon at Greatest Eclipse  
 (Geocentric Coordinates)  
 R.A. = 15h31m27.8s  
 Dec. = -19°19'40.4"°  
 S.D. = 00°16'29.9"°  
 H.P. = 01°00'33.1"°



### Eclipse Times

P1 Contact 01:32 UT 21:32 EDT on 5/15/22  
 U1 Contact 02:27 UT 22:27 EDT on 5/15/22  
 Greatest Eclipse 04:16 UT 00:16 EDT  
 U3 Contact 04:53 UT 00:53 EDT on 5/16/22  
 U4 Contact 05:55 UT 01:55 EDT on 5/16/22  
 P4 Contact 06:50 UT 02:50 EDT on 5/16/22

Notes : P1 is the first contact with the Penumbral the lighter outer shadow, it is not visible until the Earth shadow is 2/3 through the penumbral shadow. U1 is the Umbral or the darker Earth shadow.

The total phase goes from 03:39 UT to 05:56 UT (23:23 EDT to 01:56 EDT). The color of the moon can range from L0 - Very dark to L4 -Very bright copper red. This is based on how clear the Earth's atmosphere is?