

# ***THE AERO AERIAL***



**Enough!!!!!!**

The newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, Md  
Volume 7 Issue 3  
March 2010

Editor Frank Stone AC3P

## **Officers**

Joe Miko	WB3FMT	President
Bob Venanzi	ND3D	Vice-President
Frank Stone	AC3P	Recording Secretary
Pat Stone	AC3F	Corresponding Secretary
Warren Hartman	W3JDF	Treasurer
Ken Lea	KB3JVP	Property Mgr

## **Committees**

Repeater	Phil Hock W3VRD
VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
Public Service	Bob Landis WA3SWA
ECOMMS	Joe Miko WB3FMT
Contests	Bob Venanzi ND3D
Trustee	Frank Stone AC3P

## **ABOUT THE AERO AMATUER RADIO CLUB**

Meetings: First and Third Wednesdays at 7:30 pm at Coffman's Diner  
(Middle River and Orem's Rd.)

Nets: See Local Area Net Schedule

Repeaters: W3PGA (147.24 MHz - / 449.575 MHz -)

WEBSITE: [www.aeroarc.us](http://www.aeroarc.us)

## Net Reports

2 Meter Net: No Net Due To Minifest

10 Meters: WB3FMT(NCS) KB3JVP K3ROJ WA3TAD AC3P W3JEH  
KA3SNY

### LOCAL AREA NETS

Day	Time	Frequency (MHz)	NET NAME
Daily	9 – 10 am	147.03	ORIOLE Net
Daily	5:30– 6 pm	3.820	Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Daily	6:30 – 7 pm	146.670	Baltimore Traffic Net
Daily	7 pm and 10 pm	3.643	Maryland/DC/Delaware Traffic Net
1 <sup>st</sup> Tues	7:30 pm	145.330	Baltimore ARES Net
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County <u>RACES</u> 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

## Station Activities

**W3VRD** is experimenting with underwater antenna tuning circuits. Phil also sold some vintage stuff at the mini-fest. **W3PG** caught some bargains at the mini-fest. Ed picked up a couple of transceivers for a song. **ND3D** was also spotted at the mini-fest. Here's wishing a quick recovery to **W3JEH**. **KB3JDE** is sporting a new Yaesu V8XR HT. Congratulation to the staff of **Mt. Essex Observatory** on 50 years of scanning the skies. "The truth is out there".

## 2010 AERO CLUB CONTEST RESULTS

*By Bob ND3D*

***And the Winner is.....***



*Doug AI3G*

Results of this year's running of the *20 Days & 20 Nights of Fun* club operating contest are final! Congratulations to Doug AI3G who placed first with 575 points, narrowly edging out runner-up Frank AC3P who placed second with 509 points. Also participating were Bob ND3D with 397 points and Phil W3VRD with 268 points.

For the most part, Doug's work was divided between 20 meter CW & Phone stateside operations with which he notched both the *numbers* and *time zone* bonuses. Doug maximized his club score by arranging his operations to coincide with both the CW and SSB North American QSO Party (NAQP) contest weekends. All this was accomplished from Doug's new QTH in Delaware!

Frank worked just about every mode and band except ATV and 160 meters, garnering not only the *number* and *time zone* bonuses, but also the *100 point* bonus for working stations whose call suffix started with all 26 letters of the alphabet! Frank made Q's during the ARRL Straight Key Night (SKN) and the NAQP SSB weekend.

QRP and 20 meters was again Bob's modus operandi with most of his Q's made this year during the NAQP CW contest.

Phil made nearly all of his contacts operating PSK on 20 and 40 meters, working lots and lots of European DX. Phil dusted off the J-38, also participating in SKN.

Participating in the club's annual operating contest can be a great reason to try a new antenna, a new mode, or just rag-chew for points! Consider joining the fun during next year's AERO Club Contest!

# 50 Years Working The Nanometer Band

On March 13, 1960 the Aero Club's resident amateur astronomers Joe WB3FMT and Frank AC3P began what would come to be known as "Mt. Essex Observatory" with the observations of a Total Eclipse of the Moon from their respective sites in Hawthorne. Over the years Joe and Frank would make observations of many astronomical events; various solar eclipses, planets, comets, stars nebulae and galaxies using a variety of optical telescopes. Pictures of some of these phenomena are posted on the Aero Club's website <http://www.aeroarc.us/mountessexobservatory.html>.

Below are some of the nanometer band receivers Joe and Frank have used over the years.



*Gilbert Reflector 1960*



*60mm Refractor 1962*



*Criterion 8-inch Reflector 1973*



*Wards 90mm Reflector 1962*



*Wards 90mm Refl 1963*



*Wards 60mm Refractor 1974*



*Criterion 6 inch Refl. 1976*



*Celestron 8 inch SCT's 1982/1992*



*Celestron 11 inch SCT 2009*

# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

***Celebrating 50 Years of***

***Amateur Astronomy***

*by WB3FMT*

**SKY Events for March 2010**

March 7<sup>th</sup> Last Quarter

March 14<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings  
Time Begins

March 15<sup>th</sup> New Moon

March 20<sup>th</sup> Spring Equinox  
1:32pm EDT

March 21<sup>st</sup> Planet Saturn at  
Opposition

March 23<sup>rd</sup> First Quarter Moon

March 29<sup>th</sup> Full Moon  
Worm Moon

## Planet Lookout

Mercury – Hidden in Sun's glare,  
visible at end of month in the  
West.

Venus - In the West after Sunset  
(very bright).

Mars – Visible in the South at Sunset.

Jupiter- Not Visible, in the glare of the  
Sun.

Saturn- In the East, rising after  
Twilight.

## Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time (DST) and Time Zones were established in the U.S. and Canada in 1883 by the railroads, to assist in keeping train schedules. It did not become U.S. law until 3/19/1918. This officially established the Standard Time Act and also Daylight Saving Time. It was repealed in 1919, but the Time Zones remained. DST was re-started in the beginning of World War from 2/9/42 till 9/30/45. After WWII it had varied usage in the U.S. The Uniform Time Act of 1966 made standard time zones and beginning and end dates for DST. It allowed of local exceptions, DST was the last Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 changed the start and ending dates of DST. The new dates are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of March and end ends on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of November. The clocks change at 2 am local time. Many other countries observe some form of "Summer Time", but do not necessarily change their clocks on the same dates as the U.S. **SPRING FORWARD & FALL BACK**

## Spring Equinox

March 20<sup>th</sup> Spring Equinox 1:32pm  
EDT  
The time of equal days and nights.  
Spring in the Northern Hemisphere  
and Fall in the Southern.

## **VE Corner** *by AC3F*

The first test session for the new decade was held at White Marsh on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Seven applicants braved the snow to take exams. There was one upgrade and six new amateurs.

Congratulations to Charles Hodge KB3TSD on his upgrade to General.

We also congratulate new hams, Blaze Sanders KB3TYV, Ken Cuneo KB3TYW, Kevin Clasing KB3TYX, Eric Anderson KB3TYY and Rick Ladd KB3TYZ on passing their Techs.

Special Kudos to new amateur, Steve Keller AB3KN, who performed the hat trick passing Elements 2,3 and 4 in one sitting.

Thanks to KB3KRV, ND3D, WB3FMT and AC3P for driving through the snow and helping make this a successful test session.

## **Club To Hold Special Event**

This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Martin State Airport. In 1929 Glenn L. Martin purchased the land in Middle River to locate his aircraft company and with it an airfield to test the company's prototypes.

The original airfield in 1930 was a landing strip that ran parallel to Eastern Boulevard. With the expansion of the Martin Co. plant the alignment of the airstrip was changed and the present control tower was built. The airfield was the largest privately owned airport in the world.

During its time as a company testing strip, such aircraft as the B-26 Maulder, B57D Canberra, and Martin 202 Airliner were seen on the tarmac. Departing also from this airfield was the "Pregnant Guppy" Air Force cargo plane with Gemini-Titan rockets bound for Cape Canaveral.

As time passed the airport was sold to the State of Maryland and now is used for General Aviation, Lockheed-Martin Corporate flights, Maryland State Police Medivac, Baltimore City and County Police choppers, local TV helicopters and is home to the Maryland National Air Guard.

In celebration of the airport's great history, the Aero Amateur Radio Club will hold a special event on the weekend of May 1-2. The club has obtained permission to use the callsign W2W for this weekend event. Operators are needed to help keep the call on the air. Contact Frank AC3P either at a meeting or by email to [ac3p21220@yahoo.com](mailto:ac3p21220@yahoo.com).





## March 2010

			Meeting Coffmans 7:30 pm			ARRL DX Contest Phone
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
ARRL DX Contest Phone			10 Meter Net 28.445 Mhz 8 pm			
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
Daylight Savings Time Begins			Meeting Coffmans 7:30 pm			VE Testing White Marsh Library 1 pm
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
			2 Meter Net 147.24 Mhz 8 pm			Greater Baltimore Hamboree Timonium
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
Greater Baltimore Hamboree Timonium			70 cm Net 449.575 Mhz 8 pm			
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

