



Japanese Maple in November

The Aero Aerial

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
Middle River, MD
Volume 11, Issue 11
November 2014

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Editor Pro Tem Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

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Website: <http://home.comcast.net/~frank-stone/Aero%20ARC/aero.htm>

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

About the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Meetings

The Aero Amateur Radio Club meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. local time. Meeting place is TBA.

Repeaters

W3PGA 2 M : INPUT : 147.84 MHz, OUTPUT : 147.24 MHz
W3PGA 70 Cm: INPUT : 444.575 MHz, OUTPUT : 449.575 MHz
W3JEH 1.25 M: INPUT : 222.24 MHz, OUTPUT : 223.84 MHz

Club Nets

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

2014 Examination Schedule

Where: White Marsh Branch
Baltimore County Public Library
8133 Sandpiper Circle, White Marsh, Md. 21236

Time: 1 p.m.

Dates: November 22

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	146.670	Baltimore Traffic Net
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
When activated by NOAA		147.030	SkyWarn (primary)

Speaking of Repeaters Yet Again ...

Phil W3VRD and Warren W3JDF would like to thank **Marty Braun KC3AID** and **Charles Ester KC3ANJ** for volunteering to help with repair and maintenance of our club repeaters. The entire club joins Phil and Warren to say



Corrections to the October 2014 Aerial:

Warren's call sign is W3JDF

Warren's grandson is Brant

NET REPORTS

10-01-14: 449.575 MHz, 20:00 to 20:34 local, **The Eviction Net.**

W3PGA (NCS) Joe Essex, KB3VAE Richard Middle River, W3VRD Phil Essex, W3IRY Mike Dundalk, AC3P Frank Middle River, AC3F Pat Middle River, N3VBJ Jerry Dundalk (reporting maritime mobile from near Bear Creek), W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, KB3EK Chuck Essex (tried to check in but may have been on simplex)

10-8-14: 28.445 MHz, 20:00 to 20:30 EDT

Frank AC3P (NCS) Middle River, Georgeann KB3PGN Essex with Margaret (NOCALL/2), Phil W3VRD Essex, Ron W3JEH Perry Hall, Pat AC3F Middle River (in listening mode)

Frank reported that there was a death in Joe's wife's family, reminded about the 10/15 meeting at Essex SkyPark, gather at 7, meeting 7:30 – 8:30. Ron tailgated at the CARAFest at Howard County Fairgrounds with some of Bernie (SK)'s equipment and sold all except an R390.

10-22-14: 147.240 MHz, 20:00 to 20:20 EDT

Dave KA3SNY (NCS) Essex, Georgeann KB3PGN Essex, KB3VAE Rich Middle River, NE3A Ken Middle River, Margaret N0CAL/2 Middle River (in listening mode)

Sentiment of the net participants was very much in favor of meeting at the SkyPark. Dave did a fine job in his debut as NCS.

STATION ACTIVITIES



Delaware Hamfest and Convention, Oct. 4, 2014

by Georgeann Vleck, KB3PGN

Delmarva Amateur Radio & Electronics EXPO, sponsored by the Sussex Amateur Radio Association and the Sussex Technical High School Electronics Club, was held on Saturday, October 4, 2014. Besides us, it was attended by a fair number of hams from the area. We also encountered two familiar faces pictured below. Can anybody put a name to them?



While the tailgating component was hampered by overnight and early-morning rain, the indoor vendors and presentations were in full force. Among the vendors were Ham Radio Outlet (New Castle, DE), Hamsource (accessories, www.hamsource.com) of Shelton, CT, Gold Medal Ideas (t-shirts, hats, embroidered items, etc., www.goldmedalideas.com), The R. F. Connection (connectors & coax) of Gaithersburg, MD, and Pooley Glass Engravers (personalized glassware, <http://pooleyglassengravers.bigcartel.com/>) of Laurel, DE. (It was a real treat watching Mr. Pooley do engraving-while-you-wait.)



Several local clubs had tables, including Civil Air Patrol, the Quarter Century Wireless Association, the Easton Amateur Radio Society, the Delmarva Amateur Radio Club of Salisbury, as well as the sponsoring club and the ARRL table.

There were 7 scheduled presentations, among which were:

- Antenna Construction 101, and Ham Radio 101 by SARA member Eric Hudson WG3J
- Lightning Protection & Proper Grounding by Dick Drevo W3GNQ
- Emergency Power, Solar & Electric Vehicles, and Developments in APRS by Bob Bruninga WB4APR

Other activities included raffles, door prizes, Chinese auction, license testing, and card checking.

All in all, it was a worthwhile experience. We made several purchases, furthered our ham knowledge, and – had a very nice getaway, taking a side trip to Rehoboth Beach on our way to Georgetown.



From a newbie's perspective.....

by Margaret Holy, N0CAL/2

As No-Call#2, I was excited to go to my very first ham convention! Talk about "eye-candy"! And everywhere I turned there were vintage ('boat anchors', says my Elmer) as well as modern radios and their ancillary thing-y's, parts and components, antennae of every configuration (gotta love those antennas!), and myriads of gizmo's and gadgets of – I don't even have a clue what they were, my eyes did not know what they were seeing! In the classroom attending lectures, the 'ham radio sensei' asked the class for any questions that they may have so he could expound upon it, and I said I am so new in the field that I don't know enough to formulate a decent question!

I found the classes quite interesting, got a better sense of the scope and depth of the world of amateur radio, the genuine enthusiasm of the people for their art, and came away with a greater appreciation of all I have yet to learn. The teacher said it is a life-long learning process to be sure, to be ever growing in knowledge and skills, and to teach others what you know so they can stretch and grow too.

Of course, I had to buy a T- shirt. It has a circuit diagram of a resistor with a single switch – which means I can't wear this T-shirt to my Technician's test in November because identifying this diagram is one of the test questions – and the shirt says "Resistance is Futile" (from the Star Trek movie, what the cybernetic Borg says as they capture you). Well, the world of ham radio has captured my heart and mind, and I wouldn't even think of resisting.

A Little Experiment While Mobile

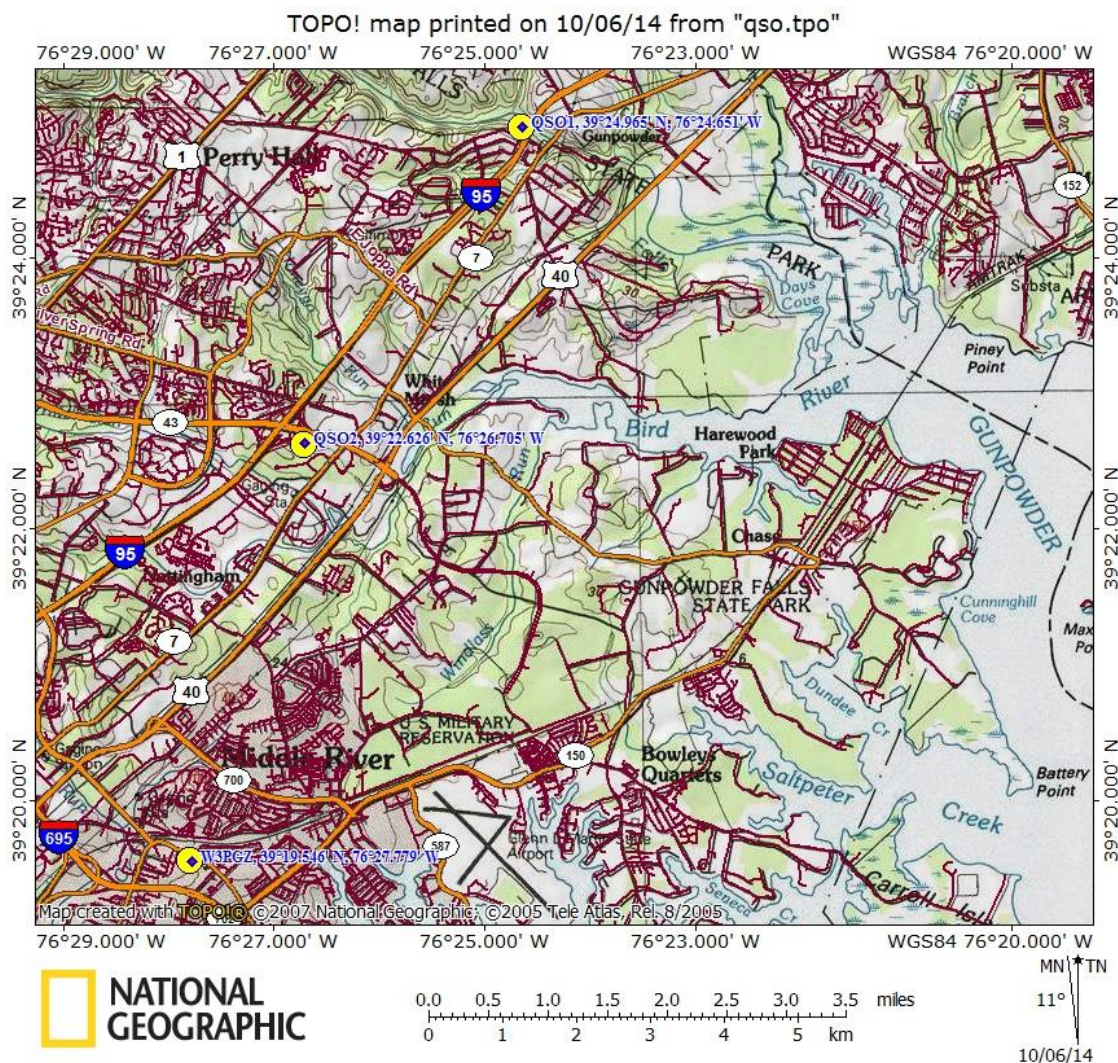
by Georgeann Vleck, KB3PGN

Returning from the Delmarva Ham Convention on Sunday, Oct. 5, Dave Vleck KA3SNY (at home) and I conducted a little test of the W3PGA 2-meter repeater to see how close we needed to be to receive and transmit good signals.

Margaret and I were south-bound on I-95. Direction to the repeater was approximately SSW. I used my ICOM-T7H hand-held connected to an Alinco amplifier, which boosted the 5W signal to approx. 35 W. The antenna was a ¼-wave mag-mounted to the car roof. Dave had his Icom W32 with rubber duck.

I began calling a bit south of Aberdeen, but it was not until we reached Mountain Road (approx. mile marker 76 on I-95) that I broke squelch on the repeater. This occurred several times, and Dave heard the kerchunk, but no voice, until we crossed the Little Gunpowder River. My signal was scratchy but readable. Dave's to me was 59. At this point the vehicle was about 7 miles from the repeater (QSO 1). Reception improved continuously and by the time we reached Route 43, about 3.6 miles from the repeater (QSO 2), both our signals were 59 all the way home.

Dave and I hope this information is of use to our fellow club members.



Hamfest Memories

by Frank Stone AC3P



W3VRD and W3JEH running a table

News has reached us that the venerable BARC Hamfest is leaving Timonium next year for the Arcadia VFC north of Reisterstown on MD Route 30. The hamfest date is also moved from March -April to June 21st. The fest is also being scaled back to a tailgate only event and the admission is reduced accordingly to \$5 admission and \$10 per tailgate space.

In a way the hamfest has come full circle. What eventually became the Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest began as a small scale hamfest run by the radio club at Calvert Hall College in Towson. The Calvert Hall Hamfest was held in the gymnasium. There was no tailgate area and parking was on the Eudowood Plaza lot. It was a one day event. There were few commercial vendors. Almost everyone was selling their old gear. It was a classic hamfest. There were door prizes for the ham who travelled the farthest to attend. There was a QSL Contest for best design which one year was on by Novice WN3SSV, now known as AC3F. There was a Morse code contest. For the non-ham XYL there was bingo.

As time went on, the hamfest grew to the point that the gym was too small to handle the growing crowd and for a school radio club to manage. By the 1980's the hamfest was moved to the Timonium Fairgrounds and control shifted to the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club. The fest continued to grow in popularity and attracted many commercial vendors. Even the Big Three manufacturers set up demonstrations of their newest equipment. With the advent of personal computers the event expanded to include computer hobbyists and renamed the Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest, a two day affair and took up three buildings plus a large tailgate area.

By the late 1990's the Fest also became host to the ARRL Maryland State Convention. A convention banquet was included with invitations to officers of the other area ARRL affiliated radio clubs and local ARRL volunteers. On one occasion induction ceremonies for the Royal Order of the Wouf Hong were held in which AC3P and AC3F were initiated.



*AC3F AC3P WB3FMT and XYL Mary Miko
at 2004 BARC Hamfest Banquet*



*The Dreaded Wouf Hong
2005 Induction Ceremony*

However, other external developments began to take their toll on what was once the largest hamfest on the Eastern Seaboard. First, major ham radio retailers established 800 numbers to take orders for their inventory. It was no longer necessary to travel to a local store or hamfest to buy gear. Next was the advent of the internet. Although the internet was a valuable tool for promoting a hamfest and to sell tickets, the same stores that had 800 numbers began to set up website to take orders and ship radios to a ham's front door. Additional new auction websites like EBay allowed hams to sell their used gear person to person without needing to travel to a hamfest to tailgate.

These developments began to effect hamfests around the country. Fewer people attended. Many good venues such as Manassas and Winchester in Virginia began to shrink in size. The Father's Day Fest in Frederick and the Gaithersburg Hamfest closed up shop completely. These factors coupled with the rent increases at the Timonium Fairgrounds, loss of commercial vendors, and difficulty in finding enough volunteers to run the event have taken their toll over the years.

At least for next year, the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club will present a downsized version of what had become an institution. We should make an effort to attend on June 21 and, if possible, other local area hamfests next year to keep the tradition alive.



VE CORNER

by Pat Stone, AC3F

The Aero VE Team kicked off another testing season at the White Marsh Library on September 27th. Five applicants presented themselves for exams. There were two new amateurs and three upgrades.

Congratulation to new hams Raymond Corcoran, **KC3DOX**, on his Technician and to Mittailo, **AB3VR**, who performed the hat trick going from no license to Extra in one sitting. Also to be congratulated are Extras Vineet Gill, **KC3DOA**, Tony Garcia, **N3KOO** and Aero member, Lisa Edward, **KC3AIJ**.

Thanks to VE's KB3EK, Lou AB3QK, Bob ND3D, Frank AC3P, and Pat AC3F.

Our next test session is scheduled **for 1 pm, November 22, 2014** at White Marsh Library. Fee is \$15.

2015 VEC Testing Dates: 1/24/15, 3/14/15, 5/23/15

Some Rule Changes for VE Testing

The Federal Communications Commission has made some changes to the Pt. 97 Rules regarding examination credit for applicants with proof whose licenses have expired beyond the two year grace period.

For these applicants credit can be given as follows:

Extra – Credit may be given for Elements 3 (General) and 4 (Extra), but the applicant must take Element 2 (Technician). Advanced or General or Tech before March 21, 1987 – Credit may be given for Element 3 (General) but the applicant must take Element 2.

Technician after March 21, 1987 must retake Element 2.

Please note that for Advanced Class, credit is only given for Element 3. The license granted will then be General Class. So for someone who is Advanced, it's best to not let your license expire beyond the grace period or take the Extra exam.

PUBLIC SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

SATURDAY, Nov. 22, 2014: ANNUAL JFK RUN, WASHINGTON COUNTY

Butch Eigenbrode (NI2W) is STILL looking for volunteers to provide communications along the route. This communication support consists mostly of coordinating pick-ups of runners dropping out early, as well as finding runners. If you can help, please contact Butch Eigenbrode (NI2W) by email at [<mee42@myactv.net>](mailto:mee42@myactv.net), at 301-824-5373 (home) or 908-343-1704 (cell).

SATURDAY, Nov. 8, rain date Nov. 15: COMBINED MARYLAND CLUB FOX HUNT

by Kato Spears, KB3LIB, FWARC

SMARC with FWARC will host a Fox Hunt this fall and invite clubs to participate. The event will start from the Clinton Police Station, 6707 Groveton Dr., Clinton, Md. The winner gets the opportunity to host the next one. The last Fox Hunt included participants from 4 Maryland clubs; SMARC, Charles County, Unall{0}cated, and FWARC. To participate you will need maps of (15 miles sq.) of the area around Clinton, a vehicle, directional antennas (w/attenuator optimal), and radios. Foxhunt map is available at MyTopoMaps - Here is a link to the Foxhunt area map (\$19.95): <http://www.mytopo.com/review.cfm?mytopoid=11839456182>

This is a good way to fill up your training schedules for the next couple of club meetings by showing your members how to direction find and how to build a directional antenna. Please email me if you are interested.

Thank you.

Kato Spears

kspearsk2@cs.com, info@fwarc.net, www.fwarc.net, Cell (240) 682-5436

KB3LIB, WQRZ487, Volunteer Examiner, Radio Merit Badge Counselor NCA

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

June 21, 2015: BARC Hamfest, Arcadia VFC, Upperco, MD.

Veterans Day Special Events – all info from ARRL website

Sat., 11/08/2014 *Honoring Veterans for Veterans Day*

Nov 8, 1500Z-2200Z, W0FSB, Waterloo, IA. Five Sullivan Brothers Amateur Radio Club. 18.124 14.240 7.240. Certificate & QSL. Five Sullivan Bros ARC, 3186 Brandon Diagonal Blvd, Brandon, IA 52210. For QSL card: Send card and #10 SASE; For Certificate & QSL: Send QSL, address label and 3 Forever stamps; For eQSL & Certificate: Send eQSL, then an email to w0fsb@outlook.com, requesting a .jpg file of the certificate that you can print yourself. www.qrz.com/db/w0fsb

Sat., 11/08/2014 *Veteran's Day Commemoration*

Nov 8, 1500Z-2300Z, W9V, Hopedale, IL. Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club. 28.445 21.345 14.245 7.245. QSL. Peoria Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 3508, Peoria, IL 61612. QSL with SASE www.w9uvi.org

Sat., 11/08/2014 *Veterans Day and US Marine Corps Birthday*

Nov 8, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250; PSK31 14.070; D-STAR REF1C. QSL. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92101.

Tue., 11/11/2014 *Veterans Day*

Nov 11-Nov 12, 0000Z-2359Z, N5VET, Cleburne, TX. Menasco Amateur Radio Club (KC5NX). 7.250 14.250 7.040 14.035 and 14.062. QSL. KC5NX Menasco Radio Club per QRZ, 9200 Summit Court West, Cleburne, TX 76033. Thank You Veterans Day --Please QSL to KC5NX in Cleburne Texas.... Return address label and postage would help. Thanks to N5VET for the use of his call sign. www.qrz.com/db/kc5nx

Tue., 11/11/2014 *Veterans Day at the Veterans Memorial Center*

Nov 11, 1600Z-1900Z, KC2UFO, Merritt Island, FL. Skywatchers and Communicators Amateur Radio Club. 14.265. Certificate. online only, see URL, Merritt Island, FL 32952. We ask callers to share their military service stories and experiences. Certificates online only. www.kc2ufo.org

Tue., 11/11/2014 *Veterans Day*

Nov 11, 1000Z-1800Z, W4NPT, North Port, FL. The North Port Amateur Radio Club. 14.230. QSL. The North Port Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 7716, North Port, FL 34290. www.w4npt.org

Tue., 11/11/2014 *Veterans Day Tribute*

Nov 11, 1400Z-2100Z, W9L, Indianapolis, IN. The American Legion Amateur Radio Club. 14.275 146.460 IRLP Node 4816. Certificate. The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC), c/o The American Legion Nat'l HQ, 700 N Pennsylvania S, Indianapolis, IN 46204. A special commemorative certificate will be available for all stations that work W9L upon receipt of a 9" X 12" SASE to The American Legion Amateur Radio Club. www.legion.org/hamradio

Source: www.arrl.org

T-MARC Frequency Coordination Report

For the September 2014 Report: Applications in Process

Go to: http://www.tmarc.org/index_files/CoordinationActivity.htm

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for November 2014

Nov 1st - Mercury at greatest Western elongation 19°

Nov 2nd - DST Ends, starts again on March 8, 2015

Nov 4th - Uranus is 1.3° south of the Moon.

Nov 6th - Full Moon. "Dark Moon" for the Celtic and the "Full Beaver" Traditional Full Moon.

Nov 6th - Mars passes 0.8° south of globular cluster M22 in Sagittarius low in Western sky at dusk.

Nov 11th - Veterans Day / Remembrance Day (Canada).

Nov 14th - Last Quarter Moon

Nov 15th - Edmond Halley was born 1656 A.D.

Nov 17th - Leonid meteor shower, the Moon is past LQ, expect 10 - 20 meteors per hour associated with comet 55P/Tempel-Tuttle. Look towards the "Sickle" (NE from Jupiter). Leo rises about midnight.

Nov 18th - Saturn is in conjunction with the Sun.

Nov 22nd - New Moon.

Nov 29th - First Quarter Moon.

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 06:49 EST and Sunset 16:51 EST

Mercury in the Morning Sky- This is the most favorable morning apparition for 2014. Magnitude - 0.8; 5.6 arc seconds.

Venus - Low in the West at dusk. Magnitude -3.9 and 9.8 arc seconds.

Mars- Western sky at dusk, sets about 20:11 EST, magnitude +0.9 and 5.4 arc seconds wide.

Jupiter- In the East at Dawn in Leo, magnitude - 2.1 size 37.5 arc seconds, rises 23:09 EST.

Saturn- Not visible behind the Sun.

Uranus- In the South at Sunset. Sets about 03:30 EST., magnitude +5.7, size 3.6 arc seconds.

Neptune - In the South at Sunset. Sets about 01:30 EST, magnitude +7.9, size 2.3 arc seconds.

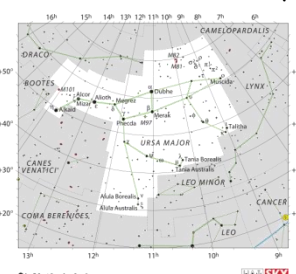
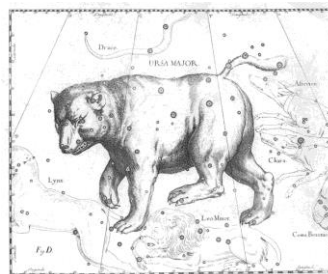
Draw a line in the sky! - Constellations

On an average clear night we can see about 2,000 stars, some of these stars seem to be scattered into random groups. Some of these groups have been named by the ancients and are called constellations.

Starting about 5000 years ago in Mesopotamia star groups were named such as Leo the Lion and Taurus the Bull, others were added by the Babylonia, Egyptian and Greek astronomers. Some of the Constellations had religious or mystical significances, but some such as Ursa Major (Big Bear) are used as navigational aids.

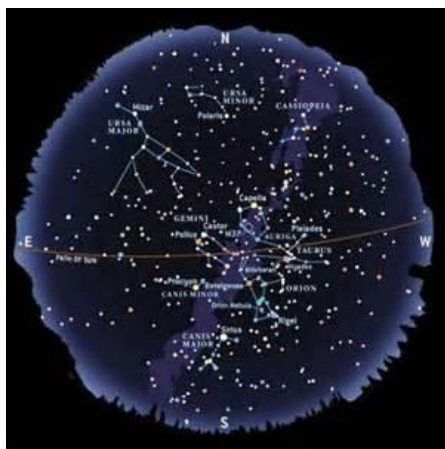
These Constellation groups contain people, animals and things: such as a King, Queen, Warrior, a Bear, Giraffe, a Compass and a Scale just to name a few. The original star groups numbered about 44, during the Renaissance period (1400 - 1700 A.D.) explorers sailed the out of the Mediterranean Sea to other parts of the world and saw new star groups and named them.

Currently there are 88 constellations as defined by the IAU (International Astronomical Union) in 1928. This is the same group that demoted the Planet Pluto in 2006 to a Dwarf Planet, but that's another story.



Another star group in the night sky are called asterisms. In astronomy, an asterism is a pattern of stars recognized on Earth's night sky. It may form part of an official constellation, or be composed of stars from more than one.





The best example is the Big Dipper located in the constellation Ursa Major (Big Bear), this dipper points to the North Star Polaris, which is at the end of the Little Dipper. There are a number of asterisms there are at least 21 non-constellation groups in the night sky. So go outside and draw a few lines in the sky...



Northern Sky

www.uvm.edu

November 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 <u>NovSweepstakes – CW</u>
2 DST ends <u>NovSweepstakes – CW</u>	3 <u>NovSweepstakes – CW</u>	4	5 7:30 pm Meeting @ Essex Skypark	6 	7	8 <u>EME - 50 to 1296 MHz</u>
9 <u>EME - 50 to 1296 MHz</u>	10	11 Veterans' Day Special Events	12 8:00 pm 10 m net	13	14 	15 Nov Sweeps takes - Ph
16 Nov Sweeps takes - Ph	17 Nov Sweeps takes - Ph	18	19 7:30 pm Meeting @ TBA	20	21	22 
23	24	25	26 8:00 pm 2 m net	27	28	29 
30						

<http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>

<http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>