



## ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
Volume 12, Issue 1  
January 2015

Editor Frank Stone AC3P  
Editor Pro Tem Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

### ***Officers***

President	Joe Miko WB3FMT	Repeater	Phil Hock	W3VRD
Vice-President	Bob Venanzi ND3D	VE Testing	Pat Stone	AC3F
Recording Secretary	Lou Kordek AB3QK	Public Service	Bob Landis WA3SWA	
Corresponding Secretary	Chuck Whittaker KB3EK	Webmaster	Al Alexander K3ROJ	
Treasurer	Warren Hartman W3JDF	Trustee	Dave Fredrick KB3KRV	
Resource Coordinator	Ron Distler W3JEH	Club Nets	Joe Miko WB3FMT	
		Contests	Bob Venanzi ND3D	

### ***Committees***

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 at Essex SkyPark, Diffendall Road, Essex. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. local time.

## 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.

### 2015 Examination Schedule

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

Time: 1 p.m.

Dates: January 24, March 14, May 23, August 22, October 24

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

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### From the Editor:

This issue of the Aerial is abbreviated because the Editor is experiencing an eye problem which is limiting the amount of time she can gaze at the computer screen comfortably.

She apologizes for any errors missed, and that she is not up to doing the calendar for this month.

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## NET REPORTS

**12-10-14:** 28.445 MHz, 8 pm - 8:35 pm local time

Frank AC3P (NCS) Middle River, Ron W3JEH Perry Hall, Phil W3VRD Essex, Georgeann KB3PGN Essex, Jerry N3VBJ Dundalk, Dave KA3SNY Essex, Rich KA3VAE Bowleys Quarters, Pat AC3F Middle River

The 12-24 and the 12-31 nets were canceled because of the holidays.

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## DUES ARE DUE

Just a word from Warren, DUES are due the first meeting in January. 1/7/2015, the yearly dues per individual member are \$24.00 or \$24.00 plus \$2.00 per each additional member for the family membership. If you have not paid for 2014 you owe that amount plus the \$24 for 2015.

If you have any question you can contact Warren at [W3JDF@arrl.com](mailto:W3JDF@arrl.com) or see him at the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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## Upcoming Second Wednesday Presentations

These presentations will be given at the Essex SkyPark FBO building following a short business meeting.

Date	Topic	Presenter
1/21/15	Repeaters How-Why & New	Phil W3VRD
2/18/15	EME Prep/Astronomy	Joe WB3FMT
3/18/15	A Skywarn Presentation	Jerry N3VBJ
4/15/15	Contest Logging w/N1MM+	Bob ND3D
5/20/15	ISS Sighting and Contacting	Frank AC3P
6/17/15	Field Day Best Operating Practices	Bob ND3D

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### **January 21, 2015 Presentation -- Radio Repeaters by Phil Hock, W3VRD**

The presentation is about what a repeater consists of, different types and ham bands, and our club repeaters.

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### **March 18 2015 Presentation – SKYWARN by Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ**

#### **How Does Skywarn Work?**

When hazardous weather occurs, Skywarn volunteers report what is happening at their location. They are asked to report conditions such as rain and snow amounts, hail, flooding, tornadoes, or damage to trees or property.

Reports arrive at the NWS office via telephone, email, social media, and the Skywarn amateur radio net. The reports are combined with radar, lightning, satellite and computer model data to determine what the storms will do next. Spotters provide the "ground truth" to NWS forecasters: important information that radar won't always show. The reports are used by forecasters to issue public statements, watches, warnings, advisories, and short-term forecasts. These products reach the public through the Internet, NOAA weather radio, the media and other means.

Skywarn reports also go into Storm Data, which is an official publication that documents severe weather across the country. Storm Data can be used to create a severe weather climatologic (or history) of the local county and city.

#### **How Does The Skywarn Amateur Radio Net Work?**

Many Skywarn volunteers are also licensed amateur radio operators. The ability of many amateur radio operators to operate during power outages is an asset to the NWS.

During severe weather, amateur radio volunteers staff the radio station at the NWS office, using the call sign WX4LWX. They talk to spotters in the area where a storm is hitting, and request information needed by forecasters, such as hail size or rainfall accumulation. As many of you saw on June 29th, 2012, large storms such as hurricanes and derechos can knock out phone service. Skywarn amateur radio volunteers help when there are communications outages so that NWS can continue to receive weather reports and feed warnings and other critical information out to communities. The WX4LWX station can also communicate with the National Hurricane Center, if needed.

Jerry N3VBJ Northeastern Coordinator for SKYWARN. For further information contact him at [n3vbj1@gmail.com](mailto:n3vbj1@gmail.com)

Presenters who wish to submit a description of their talk may email it to Georgeann at [KB3PGN@reagan.com](mailto:KB3PGN@reagan.com) for inclusion in the Aerial.

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## VE CORNER

*by Pat Stone, AC3F*

### Aero ARC VE 2015 Test Schedule

Where: White Marsh Library, 8133 Sandpiper Circle, White Marsh Md. 21236

Time: 1 P.M.

Dates: January 24, March 14, May 23, August 22, October 24

Contact: Patricia Stone, AC3F, phone: 410-687-7209, email: [ac3f@juno.com](mailto:ac3f@juno.com)

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## UPCOMING HAMFESTS

**Sunday, January 25, 2015**, Post-Holiday Hamfest

Odenton Volunteer Fire Department, 1425 Annapolis Rd., Odenton, MD 21113

Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

<https://sites.google.com/site/marylandmobileers/hamfests-1/hamfest-2>

Talk-In: 146.805/146.205 (PL 107.2)

Contact: Bruce McPherson, AB3AC, 484 Peach Leaf Ct., Odenton, MD 21113

Phone: 410-456-2500, Email: [bmcperson73@verizon.net](mailto:bmcperson73@verizon.net)

**Saturday, February 7, 2015**, Virginia State Convention (Richmond Frostfest)

Richmond Raceway Complex, 600 E. Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23218

Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society

[www.frostfest.com](http://www.frostfest.com)

Talk-In: 146.88 -600 (PL 74.4)

Contact: DeeDee Farrell, KK4AVC, PO Box 14828, Richmond, VA 23221

Phone: 804-657-7038, Email: [info@frostfest.com](mailto:info@frostfest.com)

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

Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Father's Day Hamfest will be held on Sunday, June 21st 2015 at the Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company Grounds. The address is 16020 Carnival Ave, Upeerco, MD 21155. It is just a few miles north on Route 30 from the top of I-795. The show will be from 8 am until 12 noon and it will be a TAILGATE hamfest. The prices will be \$5 admission and \$10 per tailgate spot. More information will follow soon. Bill Dobson, N3WD

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## 2014 – A Year to Remember

*By Frank Stoe, AC3P*

The Aero Amateur Radio Club had a remarkable year. The membership continued to increase and members were engaged in many operating activities and public service operations.

The year kicked off with the club's 30 Days/30 Nights of Fun Contest. As had been the case in previous years, Bob, ND3D, legged it out to leave the competition in the dust.

In keeping with the "Blue Moon Net" tradition, Frank AC3P and Joe WB3FMT noticed that there were multiple new moons in March and established a "Dark Side of The Moon Net on the 222 MHz repeater.

On a less than positive note, Al K3ROJ, told the club that the company that was hosting the club website had raised the fees so high that it was too expensive to continue. With the aeroarc.us site shut down, Frank AC3P established a scaled-down version of the website on his Comcast account which will run until another web host can be found. Jerry, N3VBJ set up a parallel page on Facebook for the club.

The VE Testing Program was successful. For the 2014 year our Pat AC3F and the VE's tested 29 applicants. There were 20 new hams joining the ranks and 8 upgrades.

On the Public Service front Aero members continued to assist BRATS for various Multiple Sclerosis Bike Tours and Walks. The club assisted the Glenn L Martin Aviation Museum with their Open Cockpit Events and provided an Amateur Radio Exhibit for the Essex Skypark Wings and Wheels fly-in event. Richard, KA3VAE gave a ham radio demo to a Cub Scout Pack. Members also participated in SKYWARN nets during severe weather events.

W3PGA went on the air as 4A this year for ARRL Field Day scoring a respectable 3,420 points.

In other operating events the club sponsored a special event station N3P to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of North Point. This effort garnered 165 contacts.

There were some changes in the officers and committees. Frank AC3P stepped down as Correspondence Secretary and Chuck KB3EK took up that responsibility. Frank also handed off the publication of the Aerial to Georgeann KB3PGN after 10 years at the helm.

Another change came with our meeting place. In November Aero ARC left Coffman's and began meetings at Essex Skypark. Thanks to the Skypark Association for their hospitality.

We said hello to new members Jerry N3VBJ, Lisa KC3AIJ, Marty KC3AID and Margaret Holy (studying).

We said farewell to Ed, W3PG who relocated to sunny Florida.

Sadly on May 16, we laid to rest Bernie, K3CXC who became a Silent Key in 2013.

So we say sayonara to 2014 and look ahead to the challenges of the new year.

# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for January 2015

### January 1<sup>st</sup> HAPPY NEW YEAR 007DF

Jan 4<sup>th</sup>- Earth at Perihelion (closest to the Sun)  
91,400,000 miles at 03:59 EST.

Jan 3-4<sup>th</sup> – Quadrantids Meteor shower approx 60 -120 meteors per hour, look NE toward Bootes after midnight.

Jan 4<sup>th</sup> - Full Moon “**Wolf Moon**” for the English Medieval and the “**Winter Moon**” for the Colonial American.

Jan 8<sup>th</sup> - Latest onset of morning twilight. Mercury is <1° from Venus for the next 5 days.

Jan 9<sup>th</sup> – Two shadows on Jupiter 20:16 – 22:06 EST

Jan 13<sup>th</sup> - Last Quarter Moon

Jan 14<sup>th</sup> – Mercury Greatest elongation

Jan 16<sup>th</sup> – Two shadows on Jupiter 22:52 – 24:00 EST

Jan 20<sup>th</sup> - New Moon.

Jan 26<sup>th</sup> – First Quarter Moon

### Planet Lookout at mid-Month

**Sunrise 07:24 EST and Sunset 17:08 EST**

**Mercury** in the West at sunset, magnitude-0.5; 7.1 arc seconds

**Venus** in the West at Dusk magnitude -3.9 and 10.7arc seconds.

**Mars** In the West at Dusk above Venus, magnitude +1.1 and 4.6 arc seconds wide.

**Jupiter** Rises Early evening, magnitude -2.5 size 44.6 arc seconds.

**Saturn** Morning sky. Magnitude +0.6 size 15.9 arc seconds.

**Uranus** In the West sets by 23:30EST. Magnitude +5.8 size 3.4 arc seconds.

**Neptune** Also in the West sets by 20:00EST. Magnitude +8.0 size 2.4 arc seconds.

## Upcoming Events for 2015

### Planets – Mercury and Venus

Maximum Eastern and Western Elongations

	Date	Mag	°
Mercury EE	09-04-15	-0.5	21.1 E
Mercury WE	02-24-15	0.1	26.7 W
Venus EE	06-6-15	-4.3	45.4 E
Venus WE	10-26-15	-4.4	46.4 W

**Pluto** (Dwarf Planet) – New Horizon spacecraft launched in 2004 reaches Pluto July 14, 2015.

**Blue Moon** – next **Blue Moon** (2 in one month) occurs on July 31, 2015.

**Lunar Eclipses 2015 - Two** - Total Lunar Eclipses - 04/04/15 and 09/28/15, both visible in the US. The April eclipse thru U3 in eastern U.S. and September the entire eclipse. These are part of a Tetrad which is a series of 4 total Lunar eclipses, (the first two occurred in 2014) prior to 2014-2015, the last one occurred in 2003-2004, the next Tetrad will occur in 2032-2033

**Solar Eclipses 2015** One Total 03/20/2015 - Not visible in the US, visible in Great Britain, Europe and Asia and One - **Partial** 09/13/15, Not visible in the US, visible southern Africa and Antarctica.

	3 Fair, 5 Good, 2 Very Good
Quadrantids 1/3/15	Full Moon Fair 60-120 per hr
Lyrids 4/22/15	New Moon Good 10 per hr
Eta Aquarids 5/5/15	Full Moon Fair 45 per hr
Comet 209P/LINEAR 5/24/15	First Quarter Good
Bootes 6/27/15	First Quarter Good 0-100 per hr
Delta Aquarids 7/30/15	Full Moon Fair 16 per hr
Perseids 8/12/15	New Very Good 60-80 per hr
Orionids 10/21/15	First Quarter Good 18 per hr
Leonids 11/17/15	New Moon Good 15 per hr
Geminids 12/14/15	First Quarter Very Good 120 per hr

### Seasons in 2015

Earth Perihelion	01/04/2015	02:00 EST	07:00 UT
Earth Aphelion	07/06/2015	16:00 EDT	20:00 UT
Vernal Equinox	03/20/2015	18:45 EDT	22:45 UT
Summer Solstice	06/21/2015	12:38 EDT	16:38 UT
Autumnal Equinox	09/23/2015	04:21 EDT	08:21 UT
Winter Solstice	12/22/2015	23:48 EST (12/21/15)	( 04:48 UT)

### Daylight Saving Time 2015

Begins 03/08/2015 - Ends 11/01/2015

### Easter Dates 2015

Easter Christian (Western) 04/05/15 - Eastern Greek (Orthodox) 04/12/15