



*Field Day minus 1 minute, 2014*

## ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
Volume 12, Issue 6  
June 2015

Editor Frank Stone AC3P  
Editor Pro Tem Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

### ***Officers***

President	Joe Miko WB3FMT	Repeater	Phil Hock W3VRD
			Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
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, 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  
**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: 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	145.330 no pl	Baltimore 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	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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## Election Day Results

Election for Club Officers was held on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at the regular 7:30 pm meeting.

The Train never slowed down or stopped at the MARC station. All existing officers were railroaded -- um -- reelected to new terms. Their terms begin the first meeting in June (June 3<sup>rd</sup>).

*Joe Miko  
Past, Former, and New President, AERO ARC*

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## NET REPORTS

### **4/29/15: 444.575 MHz, 20:00 to 20:37 local.**

W3PGA NCS Joe Essex, WA3SWA Bob Kenwood Ave, AC3P Frank Middle River, KA3SNY Dave Essex, KB3PGN Georgeann Essex, W3JDF Warren Joppatown, KC3AID Marty Rosedale, N3VBJ Jerry Dundalk, W3VRD Phil Essex, AC3F Pat Middle River

Op Note: The 440 machine work great for the entire 37 mins.

### **5-13-15: 28.445 MHz, 20:00 to 20:42 local.**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall, W3VRD Phil Essex, KA3SNY Dave Essex, AC3P Frank Middle River, KB3JVP Ken Middle River, KC3AID Marty Rosedale

The 10 m net was moved from 28.445 to 28.448 due to a station working DX.

### **5-27-15: 147.240 MHz, 20:00 to 20:44 local.**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, KB3JVP Ken Middle River, N3VBJ Jerry Dundalk, KB3PGN Georgeann Essex, KA3SNY Dave Essex, KC3ANJ Charles Dundalk, KC3AID Marty Rosedale

During the net the 2 meter machine appeared to drop power for about 10 minutes, about 20 minutes into the net, but it returned to full power before the net ended.

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## STATION ACTIVITIES

Some Aero Club members participated in Essex SkyPark's Pancake Breakfast/Fly-in last month.



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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
6/17	No Presentation – Field Day Prep	
7/15	Contest Logging w/N1MM	Bob Venanzi
8/19	FM Digital Part 2: ICOM D Star	Jerry Cimildora
TBD	ISS Sighting and Contacting	Frank Stone

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: August 22, October 24

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

At the May 23 test session we had 6 people take the exams. Two were upgrades from Tech to General, the other four got tech's.

## UPCOMING HAMFESTS and EVENTS

### **Sunday, June 7, 2015: Breeze Shooters Hamfest and Computer Show**

Butler Farm Showgrounds, 627 Evans City Rd., Butler, PA 16001

Website: <[www.breezeshooters.net](http://www.breezeshooters.net)> Sponsor: Breeze Shooters ARC Talk-In: 147.300+

Contact: Robert Benna, N3LWP, 1010 Willow Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Phone: 412-366-0488, E-mail: <[N3LWP@verizon.net](mailto:N3LWP@verizon.net)>

### **Sunday, June 14, 2015: Manassas Hamfest & Maker Technology Show**

Prince William County Fairgrounds, 10624 Dumfries Rd., Manassas, VA 20108

Website: <[manassashamfest.org](http://manassashamfest.org)> Sponsor: Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club. Talk-In: 146.97 Contact: Terry Erlacher, KC4DV, PO Box 1255, Manassas, VA 20110

Phone: 571-292-1490, E-mail: <[chairman@manassashamfest.org](mailto:chairman@manassashamfest.org)>

### **Sunday, 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, Upperco, 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.

### **Saturday, July 4, 2015: Eastern Pennsylvania Section Convention (Firecracker Hamfest)**

Shumaker Public Safety Center – HACC, 1 HACC Dr., Harrisburg, PA 17101

Website: <[www.w3uu.org](http://www.w3uu.org)> Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs' Club

Talk-In: 146.760 (PL 100)

Contact: Tim Lehman, KB3OZA, PO Box 453, Hummelstown, PA 17036

Phone: 717-982-8550, E-mail: <[kb3oza@arrl.net](mailto:kb3oza@arrl.net)>

### **Sunday, August 2, 2015: 65th Annual Berryville Hamfest**

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds, 890 West Main St., Berryville, VA 22611

Website: <[www.shenvalarc.org/hamfest](http://www.shenvalarc.org/hamfest)> Sponsor: Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club. Talk-In: 146.820 -

Contact: Thomas Brownlee, AF2D, 744 Gafia Lodge Rd., Middletown, VA 22645

Phone: 540-869-7065, E-mail: <[af2d@arrl.net](mailto:af2d@arrl.net)>

### **Saturday, September 19, 2015, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Essex SkyPark, Annual Wings & Wheels Fly-in**

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## H.R. 1301 COSPONSORS NEEDED!

In Maryland, whether you live in one of the approximately 4,500 communities that has to abide by "covenants, conditions and restrictions" (CC&Rs) or if you live somewhere that is not covered by restrictions on antennas (who knows, you may find yourself moving into one of them one day), it is in the best interest of Amateur Radio that you try to get your congressman/woman to add his/her name as a cosponsor of the bill recently introduced into Congress, H.R. 1301. Getting a companion bill introduced into the Senate is in the works. As of this writing, none of the cosponsors are from Maryland, so we are working to add some names to the list.

ARRL prefers that you send the letter to them so that it can be hand delivered along with a batch of others from your district.

[Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM, the new MDC Section Manager (beginning July 1, 2015) attended the MFMA Hamfest at Howard County Fairgrounds on May 24, and had a computer-printer set-up which allowed him to look up your congressional representative, and printed out a letter addressed to him (or her). I assume he will be attending other hamfests with the same intent.]

You can go to this link: <http://www.arrl.org/hr-1301> to read the bill, find out who your representative is, read instructions on writing the letter and where to send it, etc. Please take some time to do a relatively simple thing that has the potential to have a huge effect on our world of Amateur Radio.

*Source: MDC Section News, Vol. 10 No. 5, May 14, 2015*

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW MDC SECTION MANAGER

**Marty Pittinger, KB3MXM**, will become the MDC Section Manager beginning July 1, 2015. Marty has been the MDC Affiliated Club Coordinator since 2012, past president of Baltimore Amateur Radio Club and Chairman for the Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest in 2008 and 2009. He enjoys phone and CW and is Net Control Station on several HF and VHF nets. As the Net Manager of the Baltimore Traffic Net (BTN) he has been working to grow participation in that NTS net. Marty enjoys the active pursuit of many aspects of Amateur Radio and is excited about taking on the challenges of the position of ARRL MDC Section Manager.

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## APRIL 2015 T-MARC REPORT

T-MARC, the Mid-Atlantic Repeater Council, coordinates Amateur VHF and UHF repeater operations for to keep interference problems to a minimum. The areas of responsibility include the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Northern Virginia and the eastern panhandle of West Virginia.

One of the agenda items at the February 2015 membership meeting was to discuss a proposal to modify the 900 MHz band plan. Below is the final version of that proposed band plan. No currently coordinated systems are affected. We are requesting any comments be sent to [tmarc@tmarc.org](mailto:tmarc@tmarc.org) by July 31, 2015. Barring any major objections, our goal is to start using this new plan on September 1, 2015.

Below is a modified 2 meter band plan. No changes to coordinated segments, but rather clarifications to the simplex portions of the band.

144.0000 - 144.1000 CW  
144.0000 - 144.5000 CW, SSB, AM, Beacons, Satellite  
144.5100 - 144.8900 Repeater Inputs  
144.9100 - 144.9900 Simplex / Packet  
145.0100 - 145.0900 Packet  
145.1100 - 145.4900 Repeater Outputs (Inputs +600 kHz)

145.5000 - 145.8000 Simplex  
145.8000 - 146.0000 Satellite  
146.0100 - 146.4000 Repeater Inputs  
146.4150 - 146.5950 Simplex  
146.5200 - National Simplex Calling Frequency  
146.6100 - 147.0000 Repeater Outputs (Inputs -600 kHz)  
147.0000 - 147.3900 Repeater Outputs (Inputs +600 kHz)  
147.4350 - 147.5850 Simplex  
147.6000 - 147.9900 Repeater Inputs

*Source: MDC Section News. Vol. 10 No. 5, May 14, 2015*

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## TACTICAL CALL SIGNS

*by Patti Halgunseth, KD7VBG, Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, Prescott, AZ  
(Originally appearing in the Yavapai Signal, April 2014, used with permission of the author)*

### **tactical call sign (plural **tactical call signs**)**

A call sign which identifies a tactical command or tactical communication facility.

**TACTICAL NET OPERATIONS, PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS BACKGROUND:** Amateur radio has a long standing tradition of providing support in events where the official sponsoring organization cannot provide all the communications required for adequate public safety. Competent service rendered by amateurs has proven valuable, and often essential, to public safety in these events by providing rapid alerting of officials when people need help.

The use of tactical calls at public service events is becoming more and more commonplace, and it is legal. The use of tactical calls can and does increase the efficiency and speed in identifying a specific function or person. They also eliminate confusion when working with other agencies that have no idea what an amateur radio call sign is or means. Using "Rest Stop 1 from Net Control" is a lot easier and to the point than "K5XXX, this is W4III." The assignment of tactical call should, if possible, relate to the amateur's function at the event. Tactical calls such as "Sag 1, Aid Station 4, Police 2, First Aid, Logistics" and so on provide a verbal "picture" of the function. The use of tactical call signs at an event does not relieve the amateur radio operator of the responsibility of identifying him- or herself with their FCC-assigned call sign. As required in Part 97.119(a) of the FCC Regulations, the amateur radio station must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting frequency at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication.

By using tactical call signs, the net can be conducted without regard to which operator is at the radio. They identify the position and not the operator.

- ❖ Use the tactical call sign to identify your transmission and address another station by its tactical call sign.
- ❖ No call sign is necessary in a two-way conversation once the communications has been established.
- ❖ To comply with FCC rules, add your FCC call sign to your last transmission in a series. Also this will let Net Control knows that you are finished with your traffic. If for some reason the transmission is over 10 minutes, which during events are rare, then you must identify per the 10 minutes rule.
- ❖ It is not necessary to add the receiving party's call sign, just your own.

***Example:***

- Aid Station Two: ***Aid Station Two***
- Net Control: ***Aid Station Two***
- Aid Station Two: ***The first runner has passed this location #1234***
- Net Control: ***I copy, W7YRC***
- Aid Station Two: ***K7XXX***

***OR:***

- Aid Station Two: ***Aid Station Two***
- Net Control: ***Aid Station Two***
- Aid Station Two: ***The first runner has passed this location #1234 K7XXX***
- Net Control: ***I copy, W7YRC***

***AN EASY WAY TO REMEMBER IS TO ESTABLISH CONTACT USING YOUR TACTICAL CALL, AND END THE CONTACT WITH YOUR FCC CALL TO SIGNIFY THE END OF YOUR TRANSMISSION...***

Your tactical call sign can be found on the assignment sheet to the left of your call sign and name. Tactical calls will go into effect when the controlled net is activated shortly before the events begin.

We will continue more on tactical call signs and passing traffic in the next newsletter.

*Patti Halgunseth, KD7VBG, is an experienced special event coordinator for the Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, which participates in approximately 12 special events per year.*



# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for June 2015

June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Full Moon “Dyan Moon” for the English Medieval and the “Rose Moon” for the Colonial American.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Two shadows on Jupiter 21:59 – 23:14 EDT

June 6<sup>th</sup> – Venus greatest elongation 45° E of the Sun.

June 9<sup>th</sup> - Last Quarter Moon

June 14<sup>th</sup> – Earliest Sunrise 05:39 EDT

June 16<sup>th</sup> – New Moon

June 17<sup>th</sup> – earliest morning twilight 03:43 EDT

June 21<sup>st</sup> – Solstice 12:38 EDT – Longest day 15hr 01m

June 24<sup>th</sup> - First Quarter Moon; Latest twilight 22:39 EDT; Mercury greatest elongation 22° W of the Sun.

June 27<sup>th</sup> – Latest Sunset 20:36 EDT; Venus < 2° from Jupiter for the next week.

June 27 - 28 – ARRL Field Day Weekend

June 30<sup>th</sup> – Venus is 0.3° from Jupiter.

### Planet Lookout at mid-Month

**Sunrise 05:39 EDT and Sunset 20:34 EDT**

**Mercury** Dawn sky after 22<sup>nd</sup>, , magnitude 1.6; 10.1 arc seconds

**Venus** High at Dusk magnitude -4.4 and 26.5 arc seconds.

**Mars** is hidden in the Sun’s glare all month.

**Jupiter** Dusk, sets in early P.M. magnitude -1.9 size 33.4 arc seconds.

**Saturn** Dusk early P.M.. Magnitude +0.1 size 18.4 arc seconds.

**Uranus** – Rises about 2:20 EDT, Magnitude 5.9, Size 3.3 arc seconds.

**Neptune** East at Dawn rises at 00:45 EDT. Magnitude +7.9 size 2.4 arc seconds.

Comet...Comet? Fuzzy Spot!! Write it Down....

Charles Messier was born in Badonviller on June 26, 1730 in the Lorraine region of France about 225 miles East of Paris; he died April 12, 1817 at age 86. Charles' interest in astronomy was stimulated by the appearance of the spectacular, great six-tailed comet in 1744 and by an annular solar eclipse which was visible from his hometown on 25 July 1748.

In 1751 he entered the employ of Joseph Nicolas Delisle, the astronomer of the French Navy, who instructed him to keep careful records of his observations. Messier's first documented observation was that of the Mercury transit of May 6, 1753.

Messier was a comet hunter, but that's not what made him famous. It's all of the fuzzy spots that got in the way of his comet discoveries. Almost no one remembers the bakers' dozen comets he discovered between 1760 and 1785, but asks any amateur astronomer about the 110 Messier Objects, and they know a number of them. The first version of Messier's catalogue contained 45 objects and was published in 1774, as years passed other object were added; by 1783 there were 103 objects. On several occasions between 1921 and 1966, astronomers and historians discovered evidence of another seven objects that were observed either by Messier or by Pierre Méchain, a friend and assistant.

The list of 109 objects of which 102 is a dupe of 101 contain the following non-comets: 7 bright nebula, 4 planetary nebula, 1 Milky Way cloud, 27 open cluster, 29 globular cluster, 2 asterism, 11 elliptical galaxy, 27 spiral galaxy and 1 irregular galaxy per S&T Messier Card.

It is said that during late March and early April, it is possible to see all 109 Messier objects in a single night, its call the Messier Marathon.

A list of fuzzy spots to make our comet hunting easier!

# June 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 	3 7:30 pm Meeting @ Essex SkyPark	4	5	6
7 Hamfest Butler, PA	8	9 	10 8:00 pm 10 m net	11	12	13
14 Manassas Hamfest, VA	15	16 	17 7:30 pm Meeting @ Essex SkyPark	18	19	20
21 BARC Hamfest Upperco MD	22	23	24  8:00 pm 2 m net	25	26	27 2:00 pm Field Day begins
28 2:00 pm Field Day ends	29	30				