



*Aero Club Operating  
Field Day 2016*

## ***The Aero Aerial***

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club  
Middle River, MD  
Volume 13, Issue 8  
August 2016

Editor Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

### ***Officers***

President	Joe Miko WB3FMT	Repeater	Phil Hock W3VRD Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
Vice-President	Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ	VE Testing	Pat Stone AC3F
Recording Secretary	Lou Kordek AB3QK	Public Service	Bob Landis WA3SWA
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Stone AC3F	Webmaster, Facebook	Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ
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Resource Coordinator	Ron Distler W3JEH	Club Nets	Joe Miko WB3FMT
		Contests	Bob Venanzi ND3D Charles Whittaker KB3EK

### ***Committees***

Website: <http://w3pga.org>

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.

### 2016 Examination Schedule

Where: White Marsh Library, 8133 Sandpiper Circle

Time:	1 – 4 pm	
Dates:	Sun., Sept. 25	

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
Fridays	7:30 pm	145.330	Back in the Day Net
When activated by NOAA		147.030	SkyWarn (primary)

# *From the President's Cave*

**July 8, 2016**

## **Field Day 2016**

I wish to thank all of the Aero Amateur Radio Club members for supporting and participating in Field Day 2016. The event was as always a success. The one major factor for the Club's success at the 2016 Field Day was its operating location and the number of Aero participants. This is the **5<sup>th</sup>** year (4<sup>th</sup> inside the Community hanger) at the Essex Skypark, located off Back River Neck Road in Essex, Maryland. Another success factor was the number of members helping with Friday's FD setup; we had **10** members that showed up to lend a hand. With a roster of **40** Aero members (2 new members joined on FD Saturday), **24** were able to participate either operating or in some other support activities. That breaks down to an overall **60%** club turn out. Not bad, not bad at all!

During the 24 hour event we had **14 plus** operators from the Aero ARC, **4** guest ham operators, **6** guests, including State Delegate Robert Long of Legislative District 6 and airport personnel. Marty Pittinger KB3MXM, the MDC Section manager, got held up in Southern MD, and was unable to make it to our FD site on time, but Jerry N3VBJ kept him abreast of our activities.

Set up time went smoothly because of the **10** members who worked from 07:30 to 14:00 on Friday. By 18:00 on Friday all 5 HF radio's and associated laptops were setup and ready, as well as the 20 meter beam, 2 G5RVs, 10-75 meter vertical (up at 20:00), GP15, Windom and 2 meter and 440 beams. With all the team work and hard efforts, everything was ready and operational as of 11:00 on Saturday.

The weather during Field Day started pleasant with temperatures in the mid-80's with light winds.

All and all it was a great weekend and operating fun was had by all.

Ran as 5A  
Setup time on Friday done by 18:00  
Operational as of 11:00 on Saturday  
Safety briefing at 11:00 on Saturday  
VEC Testing on Saturday (6 takers all went home w/new or upgraded license)

14 plus Aero ARC Members operated during FD16  
24 Aero Club members either operated or worked in a support role  
4 Visiting Ham Operators  
Breakdown by 16:00 on Sunday

Special thanks to those who assisted on Friday:

Jerry Cimildora N3VBJ  
Joe Miko WB3FMT  
Marty Braun KC3AID  
Ron Long N3EKO  
Larry Hill KB3QWC

Dave Fredrick KB3KRV  
Lou Kordek AB3QK  
Bob Landis WA3SWA  
Frank Horney KC3FBM  
Warren Hartman W3JDF

Phil W3VRD

Special thanks also to:

Jerry Cimildora – Skywarn display  
Warren Hartman – Towers, lights, cables, etc.  
Susan Landis – Cookies, bringing the coffee pot

Bob Landis – Computer setup  
Dave Fredrick – Solar panels, electrical tie in

Again, thanks to all who came and helped out in any capacity, whether operating or other supporting modes.

**We made 1,560 QSO points, 1,650 Bonus points for a Total of 3,210, that's 74 more points than FD 15.  
121 CW, 25 Digital and 488 Phone  
47 States, most of Canada, and Puerto Rico (did not get ID, WY, HI).**

Thanks again to all who helped make this a safe and successful Field Day event.

*Joe Miko, WB3FMT*

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## NET REPORTS

**07-13-16: 28.445 MHz, 20:00 to 21:03 local.**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, KB3JVP Ken Middle River, KC3FBL Jim Parkville, KC3FNN Rob Middle River (a neighbor of Ken KB3JVP), FC3FRH Charles Baltimore, VE9HX Rich Breadalbane, New Brunswick, Canada

**7-27-16: 147.240 MHz, 20:00 to 20:33 local.**

W3PGA Joe (NCS) Essex, KB3VAE Rich Middle River, W3VRD Phil Essex, AC3F Pat Middle River, KC3FBM Franklin Parkville, N3VBJ Jerry Mobile towards Dundalk, KC3GKE Don Essex, W3JEH Ron Perry Hall

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## Upcoming Second Meeting Presentations

These presentations will be given at the Essex SkyPark FBO building after the business meeting.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
TBA	Volunteer Examiner Testing	Patricia Stone
TBA	Contest Logging with N1MM	Bob ND3D

*Any questions call Joe Miko at 443-956-0197.*

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.

The following presentation topics were suggested at a recent club meeting. Dates are being arranged.

Charles KC3ANJ and Kelly KC3APF - the Acu-rite Weather Station.  
Patricia AC3F - VE Testing and Morse Code.  
Ron W3JEH - his 220 Repeater.  
Phil W3VRD - his Linear amp.  
Keon KE3HAY - How Ham Radio Relates in the Modern Age.

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## PUBLIC SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

**Sunday, August 7, 2016: 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Fort Ritchie Triathlon, Ft. Richie, Cascade, MD, 8 am until 12 pm**

Volunteers are needed for the Racine Triathlon to be held August 7, 2016 at Fort Ritchie, Maryland and the surrounding area. Ham assistance is needed at the bike race from 8:00 am until about 12:00 noon. If you can help please notify NI2W.

M. E. "Butch" Eigenbrode, NI2W, E-mail: [<mee42@myactv.net>](mailto:<mee42@myactv.net>)  
Home phone: 301-824-5373, Cell phone: 908-343-1704

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### VE CORNER

*by Pat Stone, AC3F*

The AERO VE Team held its second annual FD test session on Saturday, June 25, 2016 at the Essex Sky Park. We served 6 applicants. Congratulations to new Extra Edgar Green KB3YEI, new Generals Don Douglas KC3GKE and James Geibel KM4VEN, and new Techs Paul Pelletier KC3HKX, Charles Ratcliff KC3HKW, and Devin Peterson KC3HKV.

A very special thanks to WB3FMT, KC3FBL, KB3KRV, AB3QK, KD3TP, KB3VAE, and N3VBJ for assisting me with this session. It was a pleasure working with all of you.

This was the second time we have held a test session just prior to the start of Field Day Festivities and we served twice as many applicants this year as we served in 2015. It seems to be catching on. Unfortunately the FCC suffered a system failure. No applications were processed from June 28th thru July 17<sup>th</sup>. Sorry to all our examinees for the delay.

Our next test session will be held at 1 pm on Sunday September 25 at the White Marsh Library. Hope to see you then.

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## UPCOMING HAMFESTS and EVENTS

**Glenn L. Martin Aviation Museum Speaker Series, 7 pm, Lockheed Martin Administration Building, 2323 Eastern Blvd, Middle River, MD.** Although admission to the Aviation Speaker Series program is free, a photo ID is required for entry into the facility. **August 1:** Nedda Thomas talks about pilots who flew "The Hump" during WWII

**September 12:** Roger Miller talks about the raid on the Ploesti oil fields

**October 3:** The latest on the James Webb telescope from the director, Massimo Stiavelli

**November 7:** Retired USAF pilot Buz Carpenter talks about flying the Lockheed SR-71 "Blackbird"

**Sunday, August 7, 2016: 66th 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

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

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

**Glenn L. Martin Aviation Museum, 2016 Open Cockpit Days**

August 13

**Sunday, August 21, 2016: CARROLL COUNTY TAILGATE FEST**

Sportmans Hall Skating Rink, 15500 Hanover Pike, Upperco, MD 21155

Website: <[www.qis.net/~k3pzn/hamfest.html](http://www.qis.net/~k3pzn/hamfest.html)>

Sponsor: Carroll County Amateur Radio Club

Contact: Steve Beckman, N3SB, 2145 Bethel Rd, Finksburg, MD 21048, Phone: 410-876-1482, E-mail: [n3sb@qis.net](mailto:n3sb@qis.net)

*Outdoor space only.*

**Saturday, September 10, 2016: Virginia Section Convention (Virginia Beach Hamfest)**

Virginia Beach Convention Center, 1000 19th St, Virginia Beach, VA 23450

Website: <http://vbhamfest.com>

Sponsor: Tidewater Radio Conventions

Contact: Carl Clements, W4CAC, 4500 Wake Forest Rd, Portsmouth, VA 23703

Phone: 757-235-4813, E-mail: [w4cac@cox.net](mailto:w4cac@cox.net)

Talk in: 146.970 (CTCSS 141.3 Hz)

**Saturday, September 17, 2016: Wings and Wheels, 9 am to 4 pm**

Essex Skypark, cost \$5.00 per car.

**Saturday, October 9, 2016: CARAFest 2016**

Howard County Fairgrounds, 2210 Fairgrounds Rd., West Friendship, MD 21794

Sponsor: Columbia Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://www.carafest.org>

Contact: David Parkison, KB3VDY, PO Box 911, Columbia, MD 21044

Phone: 443-492-9501, Email: [info@carafest.org](mailto:info@carafest.org)

Talk-In: 147.39+ (PL 156.7)

Follow I-70 to Rt-32 and follow signs

DX Card Checking and Free License Exam

Tailgater @ 6AM, Public @ 8AM, see website

**Saturday, October 22, 2016: St. Mary's ARA 4th Annual TailgateFest, 8 am - 12 pm**

Hollywood VFD Bingo Hall, 24801 Three Notch Rd., Hollywood, MD 20636

Website: <http://www.k3hki.org>

Sponsor: St. Mary's County ARA

Talk-In: 146.640 (PL 146.2)

Table fee: Indoor Reserved: \$10, Outdoor spot: \$5

Contact: Chuck Gantz , K3WJX, 45200 Christman Rd., Hollywood, MD 20636  
Phone: 240-925-1105, Email: [k3wjjx@yahoo.com](mailto:k3wjjx@yahoo.com)

**Sunday, October 23, 2016: THE MASON-DIXON HAMFEST**

Sportmans Hall Skating Rink, 15500 Hanover Pike, Upperco, MD 21155

Website: <[www.qis.net/~k3pzn/hamfest.html](http://www.qis.net/~k3pzn/hamfest.html)>

Sponsor: Carroll County Amateur Radio Club

Contact: Steve Beckman, N3SB, 2145 Bethel Rd, Finksburg, MD 21048, Phone: 410-876-1482, E-mail: <[n3sb@qis.net](mailto:n3sb@qis.net)>

*Indoor space possibly available by the Oct. 23 date. Check with the contact for information.*

**Saturday, December 10, 2016: SANTA FEST**

American Legion Youth Camp, 9201 Surratts Road, Cheltenham, MD 20623

Sponsor: American Legion & Prince George's County Emergency Repeater Assn.

Talk-In: 145.230 (PL 110.9)

Contact: Charles Hallock, AA3WS, 16203 Manning Road, West Accokeek, MD 20607, Phone: 301-535-1666, E-mail: <[selbynet@hotmail.com](mailto:selbynet@hotmail.com)>

Visit [www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar) for complete listings.

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# DID YOU KNOW . . . ??

That in 1964 there was a U. S. postage stamp commemorating amateur radio?



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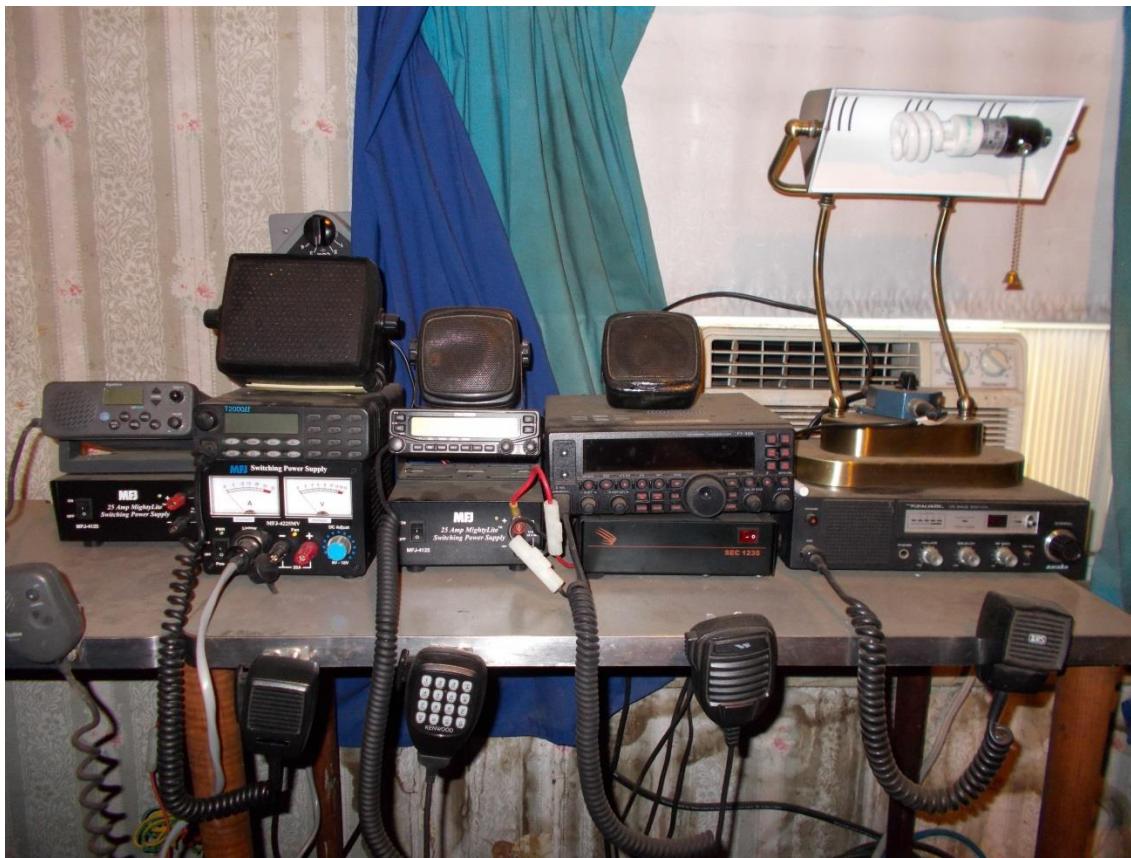
## FEATURE ARTICLE

### How I Got Started In Radio

by Richard Hoerner, KB3VAE

I originally got acquainted with two-way radio as a youth in Boy Scouts. I became involved with a group within Scouting that supplied communications services, both land line and Citizens Band, for activities in the old Loch Raven District. This was in the late '50s and early '60s. I always wanted to get my ham license but was never able to get up to par on code speed and theory at the same time.

Jump ahead to the 2010 National Boy Scout Jamboree. Station KB3BSA had VE testing all day, every day, so, on one of my breaks from medical duties, I decided to try it. They gave me a study guide for Tech (something by Gordon somebody<sup>1</sup>) and I decided to take the test. I found that I remembered enough from my high school electronics (50 years earlier) to pass the test and, since code was no longer needed, I got my Tech rating. Using the online testing from QRZ.com, I was able to earn my General shortly thereafter and finally, using the same source, achieved my Extra. Unfortunately, although I hate to admit it, I am still a glorified CBer and not really up on theory or code (I memorized the test, not the theory.) I am also involved in Civil Air Patrol communications (NTIA frequencies, not FCC) as a net control station, and hold a commercial VHF license for my Scout activities.



HOME SHACK

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<sup>1</sup> Most probably Gordon West, WB3NOA –Ed.



MOBILE SET-UP

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## WANTED TO BUY or FOR SALE

ICOM W-32A 2 band HT. Contact Georgeann KB3PGN@reagan.com

*Anyone having ham stuff for sale, or who is looking for a specific piece of equipment, can send the pertinent information to the Aerial editor at [KB3PGN@reagan.com](mailto:KB3PGN@reagan.com) for inclusion in the newsletter. "Deadline" is whenever I get around to putting it together, generally within the last week of the month. Unless I'm away. – the Editor*

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# From the Skies over Mt. Essex

## SKY Events for August 2016

Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> – New Moon

Aug 5<sup>th</sup> – Venus 1.1° N of Regulus at 05:00 EDT, the Moon is 0.2° S of Jupiter at 24:00 EDT.

Aug 10<sup>th</sup> - First Quarter Moon

Aug 12<sup>th</sup> - Perseid Meteor shower, ¼ Moon sets at 01:06 EDT. Expected 60 – 80 meteors per hour.

Aug 16<sup>th</sup> – Mercury greatest elongation 27° E of the Sun (Evening Sky)

Aug 18<sup>th</sup> - *Full Moon* “Dog Day’s Moon” for the Traditional American and the “Harvest Moon” for the Chinese Full Moons. Penumbral eclipse 05:00 EDT.

Aug 19<sup>th</sup> – Neptune is 1.1°S of the Moon 08:00 EDT.

Aug 21<sup>th</sup> – One year to go till the USA crossing Total Solar Eclipse. It runs from Portland, OR. thru Columbia, SC. In Baltimore it will be 82° total.

Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> - Mars will pass 1.8° N of Antares at 24:00 EDT.

Aug 25<sup>th</sup> – Last Quarter Moon.

Aug 27<sup>th</sup> – Venus and Jupiter low in the evening twilight 0.1° separation, 18:00 EDT.

### **Sunrise 06:19 EDT and Sunset 20:01 EDT**

### **Planet Lookout at mid-Month**

**Mercury** Evening sets 21:00, mag 0.1, size 6.8 arc sec.

**Venus** Evening sets 20:55, mag -3.8, size 10.3 arc sec.

**Mars** Evening, rises 15:02, mag -0.6 and 13 arc sec.

**Jupiter** Evening, sets 23:23, mag -1.7 size 31.6 arc sec.

**Saturn** Evening rises 15:08, mag 0.4 size 17.3 arc sec.

**Uranus** Evening rises 22:25, mag 5.8, size 3.6 arc sec.

**Neptune** Evening 20:42, magnitude +7.8 size 2.3 arc sec.

And then there were eight!

For many astronomers born in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the music stopped 10 years ago on August 24, 2006. The day when the ninth planet, Pluto got demoted!

Prof. Owen Gingerich of Harvard, who chaired the planet definition committee, revealed that only 10% of the 2,700 scientists who had attended the 10-day meeting were present at the Pluto vote. The low turn-out has been blamed on timing; the vote was held on the last day of the General Assembly when many participants had left or were preparing to fly out from Prague.

**What happened next?** The discussions in Prague during August 2006 were intense, but a new version of a planetary definition gradually took shape. On 24 August, the last day of the assembly, members voted to adopt a new resolution outlining criteria for naming a planet:

1) A planet is a celestial body that: a) is in orbit around the Sun; b) has sufficient mass for its self-gravity to overcome rigid body forces so that it assumes a hydrostatic equilibrium (nearly round) shape; and c) has cleared the neighborhood around its orbit.

Pluto met the first two of these criteria, but the last one proved pivotal. "Clearing the neighborhood" means that the planet has either "vacuumed up" or ejected other large objects in its vicinity of space. In other words, it has achieved gravitational dominance.

Because Pluto shares its orbital neighborhood with other icy Kuiper Belt Objects, the resolution effectively stripped the distant world of a planetary designation it had held for some 76 years. Pluto was reclassified as a Dwarf Planet and then reclassified as a Plutoid by the IAU on 6/11/2008. Pluto is now recognized as a new category of Trans-Neptunian Objects.

-- Taken from a BBC News article dated 13 July, 2015, Science and Environment.