



*Aero Club Operating
Field Day 2016*

The Aero Aerial

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club
Middle River, MD
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Editor Georgeann Vleck KB3PGN

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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, 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 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
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 **5th** year (**4th** 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

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

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 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.

PUBLIC SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Sunday, August 7, 2016: 7th Annual Fort Ritchie Triathlon, Ft. Ritchie, 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



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 17th. 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.

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

Sponsor: Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

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

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

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: k3wjx@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>

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

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

Visit www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar for complete listings.

DID YOU KNOW ...??

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



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 somebody¹) 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

¹ Most probably Gordon West, WB3NOA –Ed.



MOBILE SET-UP

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 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

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for August 2016

And then there were eight!

Aug 2nd – New Moon

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

Aug 10th - First Quarter Moon

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

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

Aug 18th - 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 19th – Neptune is 1.1° S of the Moon 08:00 EDT.

Aug 21st – 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 23rd - Mars will pass 1.8° N of Antares at 24:00 EDT.

Aug 25th – Last Quarter Moon.

Aug 27th – 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.

For many astronomers born in the 20th 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.