

For Those Who Love Ham Radio

The Aero Aerial

The Newsletter of the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Middle River, MD

Volume 20, Issue 2

February 2024

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Officers

President Joe Miko, WB3FMT

Vice President Rob Ballou, AE3B

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Jim Marshalek, KC3FBL (AE3RO)

Club Nets Joe Miko, WB3FMT

Contests Bob Venanzi, ND3D

Website: <http://w3pga.net>

NEW! *Facebook:* <https://www.facebook.com/W3PGAClub>

NEW! *Email:* w3pgaclub@gmail.com

About the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Meetings

The Aero Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 pm 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. **February 7 meeting will be via Zoom. The official time is 7:30pm but feel free to join earlier as time permits. Meeting ID: 896 7942 6480; Passcode: 147240:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89679426480?pwd=a3BVMjVPV0xSSFYvcU9yd3NOeXZkdz09>

Repeaters

W3PGA 2 M: INPUT: 147.84 MHz, OUTPUT: 147.24 MHz, PL 123.0
W3PGA 70 Cm: INPUT: 444.575 MHz, OUTPUT: 449.575 MHz, PL123.0
W3JEH 1.25 M: INPUT: 222.24 MHz, OUTPUT: 223.84 MHz

Club Nets

Second Wednesday Net – 70 Centimeters (449.575 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m. Local Time
Fourth Wednesday Net – 2 Meters (147.24 MHz Repeater) @ 8 p.m. Local Time
Fifth Wednesday Net – 10 Meters (28.445 MHz) @ 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; arrive no later than 30 minutes after start time. \$15 charge.

2024 Examination Schedule

Time:	11 am-2 pm	11 am-2 pm	11 am-2 pm
Dates:			Sat.,
Where:	American Legion, Rosedale	Essex SkyPark	

American Legion Post 180, 1331 Seling Ave., Rosedale, MD 21237

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	146.670	Oriole Net
Daily	6 pm	3.820	Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Daily	6:30 – 7 pm	146.670 PL 107.2	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	449.575	Aero ARC Net
4 th Wed	8 pm	147.240	Aero ARC Net
5 th Wed	8 pm	28.445	Aero ARC Net
When activated by NOAA		147.030	SkyWarn (primary)

W3PGA News

NEW: W3PGA Facebook Page

Shared by Rob (AE3B)

Stop by the "new" Facebook page. Rob was unable to update Jerry's Aero Club page, so he set up a new one. Be sure to click follow on the new site!

Other Ham News

NEW: ARRL Maryland-District of Columbia Section (MDC) Website Is Live

Shared by Chris Van Winkle (AB3WG)

Please check it out at arrrl-mdc.org. This site remains a work in process. I will be transitioning from posting data on the ARRL MDC site to the new web site in the coming months. The old mdc-net site is still available for now. If you have any comments regarding the new site, please send Chris an email at AB3WG@ARRL.org.

Baltimore Traffic Net Control Operators Needed

Posted in December MDC Section Newsletter

Contact Baltimore Traffic Net Manager, Don N3FQC N3FQC@ARRL.net

146.670 tone 107.2 Daily 6:30 PM and find more information at <https://www.baltimoretraff.net/>

The First Amateur Radio Station on the Moon, JS1YMG, is Now Transmitting

Posted by ARRL

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) successfully landed their Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) on January 19, 2024. Just before touchdown, SLIM released two small lunar surface probes, LEV-1 and LEV-2.

CHIRP *NEXT* New Program for Baofeng Ham Radio (GMRS, FRS, MURS)

Shared by Harry (AC3EK)

The CHIRP we know and love got some upgrades that changes my programming workflow. Learn what to do for programming the national calling frequencies, ham radio repeaters, NOAA weather stations, GMRS, FRS, and MURS frequencies.

ARRL Member Bulletin Highlights

Shared From the AARL Website

The AARL Board approved free membership for students and the reintroduction of ARRL Life Membership and 70+ Life Membership, announced the results of its election, and more.

Net Reports

Joe Miko, WB3FMT

VE Corner

Pat Stone, AC3F



03/23/2024 | [Rosedale MD 21237-1642](#)

Sponsor: AERO ARC

Location: American Legion Post 180

Time: 11:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

05/18/2024 | [Rosedale MD 21237-1642](#)

Sponsor: AERO ARC

Location: American Legion Post 180

Time: 11:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

06/22/2024 | [Essex MD 21221-6507](#)

Sponsor: AERO ARC

Location: Essex Sky Park

Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

09/21/2024 | [Rosedale MD 21237-1642](#)

Sponsor: AERO ARC

Location: American Legion Post 180

Time: 11:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

11/16/2024 | [Rosedale MD 21237-1642](#)

Sponsor: AERO ARC

Location: American Legion Post 180

Time: 11:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

Training

[SKYWARN® Basics Class](#)

Will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2024, 6-8 p.m. at Prince George's EOC: 7915 Anchor Street, Landover, MD 20785.

[SKYWARN® Advanced Flood Class](#)

Will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2024, 6-8 p.m. at Prince George's EOC: 7915 Anchor Street, Landover, MD 20785.

Events

3/10/2024 – VA Section Winterfest and Skywarn Reps

Location: Oakton High School in Vienna, Virginia from 8AM to 2PM.

Website: <https://viennawireless.net/wp/winterfest-key-info/>

5/26/2024 – MFMA Memorial Weekend Hamfest

Location: West Friendship, MD

Sponsor: Maryland F.M. Association, Inc

Website: <http://marylandfm.org>

SKYWARN/ARES/RACES

Harford County ARES/RACES Group meets at the Harford County Emergency Operations Center in Forest Hill, MD, the first Thursday of each month, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Let them know in advance if you would like to attend, via [email](#) to Steven Fook (K2EJ), Harford County Emergency Coordinator.

The Harford County, MD, ARES on-air net meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. on the KC3FHC analog repeater, frequency 146.775, (-) PL tone 146.2. ARES/RACES membership is not a requirement to participate in the net.

**Reminder: It's time to renew your Aero Club
membership!
\$24.00 due by March 31, 2024**

From the Skies over Mt. Essex

SKY Events for February 2024

Date	EST	Event
	(h:m)	
Feb 01	02:04	Spica 1.7°S of Moon
02	12:00	Mercury at Aphelion
02	18:18	LAST QUARTER MOON
04	19:15	Antares 0.6°S of Moon
08	01:30	Mars 4.2°N of Moon
09	17:59	NEW MOON
10	13:49	Moon at Perigee: 358088 km
10	19:37	Saturn 1.8°N of Moon
13	12:01	Moon at Ascending Node
15	03:15	Jupiter 3.2°S of Moon
16	10:01	FIRST QUARTER MOON
16	14:13	Pleiades 0.6°N of Moon
20	19:54	Pollux 1.6°N of Moon
22	04:00	Venus 0.6°N of Mars
23	17:45	Regulus 3.6°S of Moon
24	07:30	FULL MOON
25	10:00	Moon at Apogee: 406316 km
27	17:53	Moon at Descending Node
28	03:00	Mercury at Superior Conjunction
28	08:40	Spica 1.5°S of Moon
28	16:00	Saturn in Conjunction with Sun

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 06:57 EST and Sunset 17:40 EST

Mercury	Rise 06:42 Set 16:45 Mag -0.7 and 4.8 arc seconds
Venus	Rise 05:37 Sets 15:20 Mag -3.9 and 11.7 arc seconds.
Mars	Rise 05:52 Sets 15:34 Mag +1.3 and 4.1 arc seconds wide.
Jupiter	Rises 10:06 Sets 23:44 Mag -2.3 size 37.9 arc seconds.
Saturn	Rises 07:39 Sets 18:39 Mag +1.0 size 15.6 arc seconds.
Uranus	Rises 10:32 Sets 00:31 Mag +5.7 size 36 arc seconds.
Neptune	Rises 08:21 Sets 20:05 Mag +7.8 size 2.4 arc seconds.

Upcoming Events for 2024

Planets – Mercury and Venus in 2024

Maximum Eastern and Western Elongations

		Date	°		Date	°
Mercury	EE	3/24	18.7	E	WE	1/12 23.5
		07/22	26.9			05/09 26.4
						09/05 18.1
	EE	11/16	22.5		WE	12/25 22.0

Venus None EE None WE

Mars Opposition None in 2024

Moon 2024

Blue Moon – (3rd FM in a Season of 4 FMs) **Aug 19, 2024**

Harvest Moon - 09/17/2024

Hunter Moon - 10/17/2024

Super Moons - Full Sept 18th, Oct 17th, Nov 15th

Closest 10/17 356980km 222,055 mi

Largest in '24 10/17/24 Smallest 2/24/24,
3/25/24

Lunar Eclipses in 2024 - 1 Penumbral Eclipse 3/25/2024 -
Visible the US, Partial Lunar 09/18/24

Sun Ended Sunspot cycle 24, began cycle 25 in Dec. '19

Friday 13th in 2024 9/13/24 & 12/13/24

2024 is a Leap Year 2/29/24

Solar Eclipses in 2024 – 4/8/24 1- Total the US Partial in
Baltimore 88%

Meteor Showers for 2024 Predictions - 4 Good, 3 Poor

Eta Aquarids 5/6	New Moon.	Good	50 per/hr
Delta Aquarids 7	/4 th Quarter	Good	25 per hr
Perseids 8/13	1 st Quarter	Good	60-80 per hr
Orionids 10/22	Full	Poor	20 per hr
Leonids 11/18	Full	Poor	15 per hr
Geminids 12/14	Full	Poor	120 per hr

Seasons in 2024

Earth Aphelion	07/05/2024	01:06 EDT	20:06 UT
Vernal Equinox	03/19/2024	01:06 EDT	05:06 UT
Summer Solstice	06/20/2024	16:50 EDT	20:50 UT
Autumnal Equinox	09/22/2024	08:44 EDT	12:44 UT
Winter Solstice	12/21/2024	04:20 EST	21:20 UT

Daylight Saving Time 2024

Starts 03/10/2024 - Ends 11/3//2024

Easter Dates 2024 Full Moon 03/25/24

Good Friday (Western) Mar 29'24

Easter Christian (Western) 03/31/24

Good Friday (Eastern) 5/3/24

Eastern Greek (Orthodox) 5/5/24