



# THE AERO AERIAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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## REMINDER

June 22-23

See page 5 for more details



## Ham News

### Update on Search for Missing Aviators

From Jim Janicki, WB3FMS

Jim sent an update from Weno Island in the State of Chuuk in Micronesia. They were able to get search dogs to the island to enhance the search efforts. See page 4 for more details.

### Active Hurricane Season Predicted

From ARRL News

Colorado State University (CSU) hurricane researchers predict an active Atlantic hurricane season (June 1 to November 30) in their initial 2024 forecast. [Read more](#)

## Events

### The Great Hagerstown Hamfest

**Date:** 5/4/2024

**Location:** Maugansville, MD

**Sponsor:** Antietam Radio Association

**Website:** <https://antietamradio.org/hamfest>

### Warminster ARC Hamfest

**Date:** 5/5/2024

**Location:** Bristol, PA

**Sponsor:** Warminster ARC

**Website:** <https://wp.k3dn.org/hamfest/>

### Hamvention 2024

**Date:** 5/17-19/2024

**Location:** Xenia, OH

**Sponsor:** ARRL

**Website:** <https://hamvention.org>

### MFMA Memorial Weekend Hamfest

**Date:** 5/26/2024

**Location:** West Friendship, MD

**Sponsor:** Maryland F. M. Association Inc.

**Website:** <http://marylandfm.org>

## More Ham News



### MFJ Ceasing On-Site Production

From ARRL News

MFJ founder Martin F. Jue, K5FLU, announced that, as of May 17, 2024, the company will cease on-site production at their Starkville, Mississippi, facility. Ameritron, Hy-Gain, Cushcraft, Mirage, and Vectronics brand products will be affected. [Read more](#) [Watch on YouTube](#)

### Ham Radio Active During Eclipse

From ARRL News

Millions of people across the United States got to see a rare solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024. Find out what roles amateur radio operators played during the event. [Read more](#)

### Amateur Radio Saves Family in Death Valley National Park

From ARRL News

Death Valley National Park is in a remote desert in southern California, where mobile phone networks are spotty at best. However, one family survived after getting stuck in the mud in a dangerous area by using their ham radio and having hams on the other end of the transmission to send help. [Read more](#)

## More Events

### Old Virginia Hams Tailgate

**Date:** 6/1/2024

**Location:** Manassas Park, VA

**Sponsor:** W4OVH Ole Virginia Hams

**Website:** <https://w4ovh.net/tailgate/>

### BARC Father's Day Hamfest and Swapmeet

**Date:** 6/16/2024

**Location:** Upperco, MD

**Sponsor:** Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://w3ft.com>



## Field Day

Mark your calendar! Field Day will be held the weekend of June 22-23 at the Essex Sky Park. There will be nonstop fun, food, and radios. A testing center will also be available for anyone who wants to get a new license or upgrade their certification. See you there!

Take a look at how much fun we had last year!

<https://youtu.be/sql8XbU0b3g?si=v2baW3lt09rqU1oE>

## Training

### SKYWARN® Basics Class

Will be held on Friday, May 17, 2024, 6-8 p.m. at Allegany County Department of Emergency Services: 11400 Pittsburgh Plate Glass Road, Cumberland, MD 21502.

### 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.

Quick update from Weno island in the State of Chuuk in Micronesia. We are busy here preparing for the arrival of the search dogs. The dogs arrive tomorrow. It has been a significant effort to get all the approvals we need and time is ticking away for us to get an audience with the tribal chiefs to get into the island we need to search. So far so good. Letter attached from governor and a couple pictures. The K1H even with the club turned out to be a big deal here. I gave one of the QSL cards to the governor and he was impressed. Ham Radio diplomacy. It tipped the balance to where he gave us the letter we needed (attached). Thanks to the club. There will be 10 of us here, including the 2 dogs working to find and repatriate these veteran's remains. If we find the remains then significant global news announcements are already prepared for immediate release.

Jim Janicki, WB3FMS  
April 4, 2024



## Update on Search for Missing Aviators



ALEXANDER R. NARRUHN  
Governor  
MEKIOSHY WILLIAM  
Lieutenant Governor

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE OF CHUUK  
Federated States of Micronesia

P.O. BOX 189, WENO, STATE OF CHUUK, F.S.M. 96942  
TEL. (691) 330-2231/2234

April 3, 2024

United Airlines  
Chicago, US

**Re: Permitting live Animals (two search and rescue dogs) into Chuuk State**

Greetings of Raan Annim from Chuuk!

I am aware that Mr. Zephrian Allen and Mr. Michael Holmberg, trainers for Kio and Aspen (dog specialized in complex searches) are due to arrive Chuuk on April 6<sup>th</sup>, having obtained quarantine clearance pursuant to regulations by the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia. It is my hope that United Airlines accord them air access for the Chuuk in-bound part of their trip.

As you may be aware, a search for missing American aviators has been ongoing for decades on Tonoas Island. It has reached a point where specialist dogs and their human trainers need to be involved at the search site.

For this reason, I hereby verify that Chuuk State wishes for the success of this crucial undertaking.

The search team and pertinent agencies in Chuuk remain alert in case you want further inquiry.

Best Regards,

  
ALEXANDER R. NARRUHN AIF®  
Governor  
Chuuk State

*Mmanen Wiiset: Essina o pwan Afani, Tongei o pwan Mwärenongei*





## 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.

## W3PGA Exam Location

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

## Contact

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



## NOTICE FOR EXTRA CLASS LICENSING

FCC EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL WILL BE REVISED ON JULY 1, 2024. IF YOU'VE BEEN STUDYING FOR THE EXAM, BE SURE TO SIGN UP AND TEST BEFORE JULY 1.

## VE CORNER

*Pat Stone, AC3F*

### Upcoming AERO ARC Testing

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)

11/23/2024 | [Rosedale MD 21237-1642](#)

**Sponsor:** AERO ARC

**Location:** American Legion Post 180

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



## SKYWARN, ARRES, 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.

**"Because communication during natural disasters is often hindered, we should be making every attempt to give folks more options. Reliable access can make the difference between life and death in an emergency. Our legislation removes roadblocks for amateur radio operators looking to help their friends, families, and neighbors"**

**Senator Roger Wicker's argument to introduce the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act  
(February 14, 2024)**



## 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

## Net Reports

*Joe Miko, WB3FMT*

The Aero Arc had its 440 net on 4/10/24, with 9 participants. The net ran from 20:00 to 20:32 local.

W3PGA	NCS Joe	Essex
K3DON	Don	Joppatowne
KB3QWC	Larry	Middle River
N3FQC	Don	Perry Hall
AC3F	Pat	Middle River
KB3VAE	Rich	Essex
W3JEH	Ron	Perry Hall
K3TEL	Arnold	Towson
KB3JVP	Ken	Middle River

The Aero ARC had its 2-meter net on 4/24/24, with 3 participants. The net ran from 20:00 to 20:37 local.

W3PGA	NCS Joe	Essex
KC3HXL	Joel	Essex
AC3F	Pat	Middle River
WA3QLY	Tom	Middle River

## 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
2nd Tue	7:30 pm	146.670	Baltimore County RACES Net
2nd Wed	8 pm	449.575	Aero ARC Net
4th Wed	8 pm	147.240	Aero ARC Net
5th Wed	8 pm	28.445	Aero ARC Net
When activated by NOAA		147.030	SkyWarn (primary)

# From the Skies Over Mt. Essex

For current solar activity, visit <https://www.solarham.com/>

## SKY Events for May

message:<DM3P220MB11145EF52F621C98CAB  
96F2DED1B2@DM3P220MB1114.NAMP220.PRO  
D.OUTLOOK.COM> 2024

(h:m) EST & EDT (Add 1 Hour)

May 01	06:27	LAST QUARTER MOON
03	18:26	Saturn 0.8°N of Moon: Occn.
04	16:00	Eta-Aquarid Meteor Shower
04	22:26	Mars 0.2°S of Moon: Occn.
05	17:54	Moon at Ascending Node
05	18:11	Moon at Perigee: 363166 km
06	04:25	Mercury 3.8°S of Moon
07	23:22	NEW MOON
08	07:00	Mars at Perihelion: 1.38150 AU
09	17:00	Mercury at Greatest Elong: 26.4°W
12	18:17	Pollux 1.6°N of Moon
13	07:00	Uranus in Conjunction with Sun
15	07:48	FIRST QUARTER MOON
15	14:43	Regulus 3.5°S of Moon
17	15:00	Moon at Apogee: 404641 km
18	14:00	Jupiter in Conjunction with Sun
19	12:35	Moon at Descending Node
20	05:20	Spica 1.4°S of Moon
23	09:53	FULL MOON
23	22:31	Antares 0.4°S of Moon
30	13:13	LAST QUARTER MOON
31	04:01	Saturn 0.4°N of Moon: Occn

## Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 5:53 EDT and Sunset 20:04 EDT

**Mercury** Morning Rise 04:54 Set 17:52; Mag +0.2 Size 7.2 arc seconds.

**Venus** Morning Rise 05:42, Sets 19:34, Mag -3.9 and 9.8 arc seconds.

**Mars** Morning Rise 03:59, Sets 16:24, Mag +1.1 and 4.9 arc seconds wide.

**Jupiter** Morning, Rises 03:03, Sets 20:11, Mag-2.0 size 32.74 arc seconds.

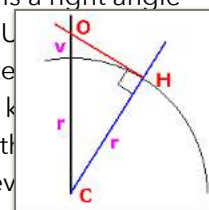
**Saturn** Evening, Rises 04:53, Sets 14:27, Mag+1.2 size 16.6 arc seconds.

**Uranus** Morning Rises 05:50 Sets 19:50; Mag +5.8 size 3.3arc seconds.

**Neptune** Evening Rises 03:29 Sets 15:24; Mag +7.9 size 2.4 arc seconds.

## How Far Away Is the Horizon?

This calculation should be taken as a guide only as it assumes the earth is a perfect ball 6365 km radius. It also assumes the horizon you are looking at is at sea level. A triangle is formed with the center of the earth (C) as one point, the horizon point (H) is a right angle and the observer (O) the third corner. Using Pythagoras's theorem, we can calculate the distance from the observer to the horizon (OH) knowing the earth's radius (r) and CO is the earth's radius plus observer's height (v) above sea level.



Sitting in a hotel room 10m (33 feet) above sea level a boat on the horizon will be 11.3km (6.8 miles) away. The reverse is also true, whilst rowing across the Atlantic, the very top of a mountain range 400m (1,313 feet) high could be seen on your horizon at a distance of 71.4 km (44.4 miles) assuming the air was clear enough.

In fact, this latter result (for English units) is nicely summed up by the old rule that 7 times the height in feet is 4 times the square of the distance to the horizon in miles; i.e., distance to horizon (miles) =  $\sqrt{[7 \times h \text{ (feet)}] / 4}$ .

Feet Altitude	Miles to Horizon
3	2.12
6	3.00
20	5.4
40	7.7
80	10.9
100	10.9
300	21.2
1,000	38.7



## About the Aero Amateur Radio Club

Officers		Committees	
President	Joe Miko, WB3FMT	Repeater	Phil Hock, W3VRD Ken Erisman, NE3A Dave Brunner, AC3EO
Vice President	Rob Ballou, AE3B	VE Testing	Pat Stone, AC3F
Recording Secretary	Larry Hill, KB3QWC	Public Service	Bob Landis, WA3SWA
Corresponding Secretary	Pat Stone, AC3F	Webmaster, Facebook	Rob Ballou, AE3B
Treasurer	Tom Hawkins, WA3QLY	Trustee	Dave Frederick, KB3KRV (W3PGA) Jim Marshall, KC3FBL (AE3RO)
Resource Coordinator	Ron Distler, W3JEH	Club Nets	Joe Miko, WB3FMT
		Contests	Bob Venanzi, ND3D
	Newsletter Editor	Cathy Feinman, W3CLF	
Website: <a href="http://w3pga.net">http://w3pga.net</a>			
Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/W3PGAClub">https://www.facebook.com/W3PGAClub</a>			
Email: <a href="mailto:w3pgaclub@gmail.com">w3pgaclub@gmail.com</a>			

### 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.

NOTE: We plan to be back in person for the May 1 meeting. However, the JUST-IN-CASE Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88393983419?pwd=a3BRb3VLUINjZDcyYkY6QTloaUQwUT09>, Meeting ID: 883 9398 3419, Passcode: 147240Repeaters

**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