



THE AERO AERIAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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NOVEMBER
6 & 20



Ham News

Essex Skypark Wings and Wheels

From W3PGA

On October 26, W3PGA was showcased at the Wings and Wheels event in Essex. Jim Janicki, WB3FMS, featured the club as part of his presentation in appreciation for hosting the K1H special event to garner global awareness last July on the 85th anniversary of the disappearance of the crew and passengers of the 1938 Lost Hawaii Clipper. [Click to learn more about Jim's expedition](#)

Sun Reaches Maximum Phase in 11-Year Cycle

From NASA

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the international Solar Cycle Prediction Panel announced that the Sun has reached its solar maximum period, which could continue for the next year. [Learn more](#)

Events

Long Island Hamfest and Electronics Fair

Date: 11/10/2024

Location: Hicksville, NY

Sponsor: Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://limarc.org/2024-limarc-hamfests/>

Amateur Radio Auction

Date: 11/24/2024

Location: Fair Lawn, NJ

Sponsor: Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://auction.FairLawnARC.org>

Winterfest

Date: 1/11/2025

Location: Harrisburg, PA

Sponsor: Harrisburg Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w3uu.org>

Cherryville Hamfest and Tech Expo

Date: 3/8/2025

Location: Clinton, NJ

Sponsor: Cherryville Repeater Association

Website: <https://www.w2cra.org>

More Ham News

How Net Control Radio Operators Saved Lives After Hurricane Helene

From Ham Radio 2.0

Dan, K2DMG, and Thomas, K4SWL, live in one of the areas that were devastated by Hurricane Helene. Both were running Net Control on a local repeater to pass traffic into and out of damaged areas due to power outages and no cell service. [Hear the "behind the scene" story](#)

The Truth about SWR: Debunking the Myths and Misunderstandings

From DXEngineering

What is Standing Wave Ratio (SWR) and how does it impact your amateur radio antenna system? Is there really such a thing as "perfect" SWR and does it really matter? DX Engineering's Michael Murphy, KI8R, covers the basics of SWR. [Watch the video](#)

How To Build A Ham Antenna for Under \$8.00

From My Ham Radio Journey

Building a ham radio antenna is easy. The hard part is building the lowest-cost antenna for the home and the field. W3CT shows you how. [Watch video](#)

Article

From Radioartisan

Amateur radio operators prepare for many unexpected events. However, one often overlooked but vital aspect of preparedness is securing the data on our computers through regular backups. Learn why regular backups are essential, which type of backup is right for you, how to create a backup plan, and practical steps for backing up your data. [Learn more](#)

More Events

Delmarva Amateur Radio and Electronics Expo, ARRL Delaware State Convention

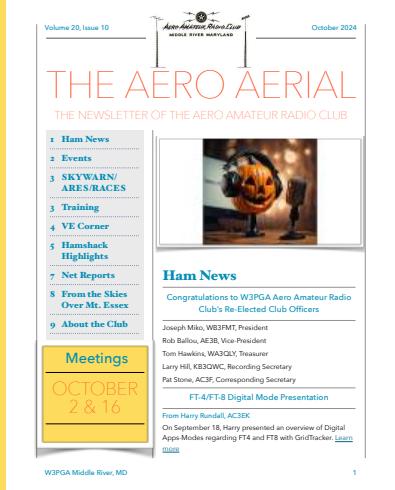
Date: 4/19/2025

Location: Georgetown, DE

Sponsor: Sussex Amateur Radio Association

Website: <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/delmarva-amateur-radio-and-electronics-expo-arrl-delaware-state-convention-1>

In case you missed it,



check out the October issue.

SKYWARN, ARES, RACES

To learn more about Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), [click here](#).

To learn more about SKYWARN® and how to become a spotter, [click here](#).

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.

Training

SKYWARN® Basics Classes

October 9, 2024, 6-8 p.m. at Garrett County Emergency Operations Center, 32 Outfitters Way, McHenry, MD 21541. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScm0qm9OLOAaAcTqoZDVEAgwM45Hazi5eUENmSv3bPpdZDBeg/viewform>

Technician Class

January 15 to March 5, 2024, 6:30-9:00 p.m. via Google Meet. Preregistration is required at <http://www.w3vpr.org/preregister>. For questions contact Keith Miller, AE3D, at ae3d.keith@gmail.com.



Radio License Exams

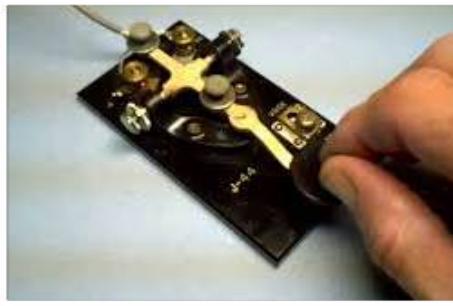
The Aero Amateur Radio Club sponsors Amateur Radio License Exams with the ARRL VEC. Examination sessions are throughout the year. Walk-ins are welcome; arrive no later than 30 minutes after start time. \$15 charge.

W3PGA Exam Location

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

Contact

Patricia Stone, AC3F
email: ac3f@juno.com
landline: 410-687-7209



VE Corner

Pat Stone, AC3F

Upcoming AERO ARC Testing

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)

Other Local Testing Site

12/07/2024 | Catonsville MD 21228-4517

Sponsor: Baltimore VE Team

Location: Salem Lutheran Church

Time: 2:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Get Ready for Your Next Exam

LEVEL 1: Technician Class License

- Exam Requirement: 35-question Technician Written Exam (Element 2).
- Privileges: All VHF/UHF Amateur bands (frequencies above 30 MHz). Limited operations in certain HF bands.

LEVEL 2: General Class License

- Exam Requirements: 35-question General written exam (Element 3).
- License Privileges: All VHF/UHF Amateur bands and most HF privileges (10 through 160 meters).

LEVEL 3: Extra Class License

- Exam Requirement: 50-question Extra written exam (Element 4).
- License Privileges: All Amateur band privileges.

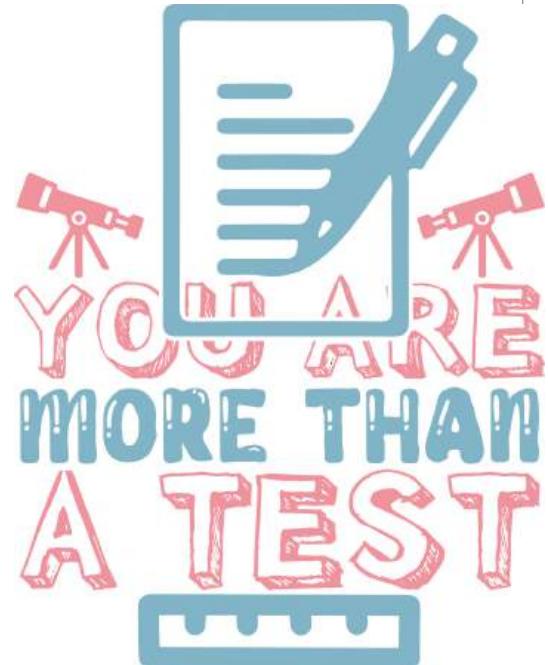
Testing Tidbits

From Pat Stone, AC3F

We've all been there. We've all had our share of those PRE-TEST jitters. You know the sweaty palms, knocking knees, pencil chewing, and perhaps a few stomach butterflies that one can experience when faced with the challenge of a test. Having taken several exams and given many more I would like to share with you a few suggestions and observations from my 30 years as a VE as well as my 52 years in ham radio.

1. Study before taking the exam but don't stress out. There are several sites you can access for taking practice exams. Use them. They will help but remember to give yourself a break from it too. Ham Radio is a hobby. It's suppose to be fun.
2. Get plenty of rest the night before the exam. A rested brain works much more efficiently.
3. Eat before you come to the session to ensure that you have lots of energy. It is well known that those who eat before testing do better than those who test hungry. Besides, there is less room in a full stomach for those butterflies.
4. Leave a little early to avoid the stress that comes with being late.
5. Be sure to have your FRN and two forms of ID with you. You will also need copies of any radio license or C.S.C.E.s you have. This will save time and ensure that your application will be accepted by the FCC.
6. Take a few deep breaths and relax. Remember there are no time limits on these exams. Take your time, don't rush.
7. Don't sweat the math! Generally, there aren't enough math questions on these exams to affect the outcome.
8. Don't erase much! Usually if you aren't sure of the correct answer your first guess is the best guess.
9. Keep in mind that your VE's are there to help you. If you aren't sure of what to do just ask. No one is looking for ways to try to fail you. VE's believe in you and the future of the Amateur Radio Service. All VE's want you to succeed as much as you do.

There you have it. Hopefully, you'll find some of these tidbits helpful when you decide to take one of the radio exams. Good Luck & God bless de AC3F



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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

None this month.

SSB/CW Special Event Station

Certificates will be given.

Gunsite To Mark NRA Birthday With Radio Call-In

GUNSITE



As an acknowledgement of communications received during the commemorative event, a special NRA/Gunsite Academy certificate will be available to all stations contacted. All amateur radio stations, particularly those operated by NRA members and Gunsite alumni, are urged to participate. More information can be found on the YARC website at w7yrc.org.

Cimarron



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REPORTS | PRODUCTS & PROJ

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 | 3.557 CW | 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 November

(h:m) EST (EDT)

Nov 1 08:47 New Moon
 Nov 3 02:37 Mercury 2.1°N of the Moon
 Nov 3 06:00 EDT ends start EST
 Nov 4 19:26 Antares 0.1°N of the Moon
 Nov 5 19:16 Venus 3.1°N of the Moon
 Nov 5 02:06 S Taurid Meteor 15/hr
 Nov 9 00:06 First Quarter Moon
 Nov 9 23:22 Mercury 2.0°N of Antares
 Nov 10 20:36 Saturn 0.1°S of Moon Occn
 Nov 12 01:00 N Taurid Meteor Shower 15/hr
 Nov 14 06:18 Moon at Perigee 360,110 km
 Nov 15 16:29 Full Supermoon
 Nov 16 01:59 Pleiades M45, 0.1°S of the Moon
 Nov 16 03:08 Mercury at Greatest Elong 22.5°E
 Nov 16 22:03 Uranus at Opposition
 Nov 17 07:00 Leonid Meteor Shower 20/hr
 Nov 19 21:07 Pollux 1.9°N of the Moon
 Nov 20 16:07 Mars is 2.45°S of the Moon
 Nov 22 15:48 Regulus 2.7°S of the Moon
 Nov 23 18:01 Last Quarter Moon
 Nov 26 16:56 Moon at Apogee 405,315 km
 Nov 27 06:33 Spica 0.4°S of the Moon

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 06:47 EST and Sunset 16:50 EST

Mercury Evening Rise 08:47 Set 17:52; Mag-0.3-; Size 6.5 arc seconds.

Venus Evening Rise 10:09, Sets 19:11; Mag -4.1 and 15.4 arc seconds.

Mars Evening Rises 21:30, Sets 08:59, Mag +0.3 and 10.2 arc seconds wide.

Jupiter Evening, Rises 18:16, Sets 12:11, Mag-2.8 size 47.4 arc seconds.

Saturn Evening, 13:48, Sets 00:55, Mag+0.9 size 18.1 arc seconds.

Uranus Evening Rises 16:45 Sets 07:01; Mag +5.6 size 3.8 arc seconds.

Neptune Evening Rises 14:19 Sets 02:09; Mag +7.8 size 2.3 arc seconds.

What's new in the sky?

The new terms you might not have seen or heard of? For examples using the calendar dates to the left. On Nov 3rd, we show the Planet Mercury 2.1°N of the Moon. This is as you look at the Moon on the evening of the 3rd, the planet Mercury will appear to the North of the Moon, that means above the Moon. The 2.1° is the apparent distance from the edge of the Moon. The apparent size of the Moon as seen from Earth is 1/2 of a degree. So, in this case, the planet is 4 moon diameters North of the Moon.

On Nov 10th, Saturn is 0.1°S of the Moon, and in some locations, there will be an Occultation. That means, in this case, the Planet Saturn is occulted or covered by the Moon.

On Nov 15th, we have a Full Moon that happens to be a Supermoon. That is when you have a Full Moon occurring at the time of closest approach to Earth or Perigee. The Lunar orbit is elliptical, so every so many orbits, the Moon get closer when it's Full.

On Nov 17th, Mercury is at Greatest Elongation of 22.5°E. This means the Planet is on the Eastern side of the Sun. An easy way to remember this is, if the elongation is East, think evening, if West, it's morning.

Again, the distance in degrees, so Sun and the Moon appear to be the same size in space 1/2 of a degree. In this case, Mercury will be 44½ Sun diameters from it.

Nov 5th shows us a Meteor Shower along with other information. The Name is South Taurid (Southern part of Tauris the Bull). The number 15 is the expected number of meteors per hour you can see from a dark location.

Star Names and Constellation (get a star chart to help your search):

- Antares in Scorpion
- Pleiades M45 (Messier Open Star cluster) in Tarus the Bull
- Pollux the trailing star of the Gemini Twins
- Regulus the bright star at the period "?" in Leo the Lion
- Spica the brightest star in Virgo the maiden

DST = Daylight Saving Time

M45 = One of the 110 objects discovered by Charles Messier compiled in the late 1700s. M45 is an open cluster visible to the naked eye. Depending on your eyesight, you may be able to see 5 or more stars.

If you have any questions, drop me a line at:
joseph.miko@outlook.com

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 | | | |
| Aerial archives dating to 2004 are available at https://w3pga.net/the-aerial-newsletter-library/ | | | | | |
| Website: http://w3pga.net | | | | | |
| Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/W3PGAClub | | | | | |
| Email: w3pgaclub@gmail.com | | | | | |

Meetings

Until further notice, the club will meet in-person at 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Post 180, 1327 Seling Avenue, Rosedale, MD 21237, and No Zoom. All are welcome to attend.

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| 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 |