



THE AERO AERIAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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ARES/RACES**

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Meetings

MARCH
5 & 19



kakasoto.design/vecteezy.com

Ham News

Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act Re-Introduced

From ARRL

Legislation would require HOAs to accommodate Amateur Radio operators by allowing use of outdoor antennas. [Read more](#)

HamCation Presentation Shows How to Ramp Up Club Participation

From Dan KB6NU

KN2D gave a presentation on how to increase your club's member participation. He's a marketing guy by profession, and it shows. [Watch the video](#)

Events

Cherryville Hamfest and Tech Expo

Date: 3/8/2025

Location: Clinton, NJ

Sponsor: Cherryville Repeater Association

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

Winterfest - National Capital Area Ham Radio Fair

Date: 3/9/2025

Location: Vienna, VA

Sponsor: Vienna Wireless Association

Website: <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest/>

FredFest 2025

Date: 3/22/2025

Location: Frederick, MD

Sponsor: Frederick Amateur Radio Association

Website: <https://frederickarc.org/fredfest-2025/>

More Ham News

A Budget-Friendly Self-Supporting Antenna System for POTA

From Eric WD8RIF

Many operators face challenges when setting up a portable station, particularly for POTA or other field operations. Here's a how-to for a 28½' end-fed random wire (EFRW) antenna with three 17' counterpoise wires. [Learn more](#)

Videos for Ham Enthusiasts

From Ham Radio Gizmos

This is a compilation of videos to educate and entertain amateur radio enthusiasts, whether you're just starting out or have been at it for a year. [Explore the videos](#)

A Simple Way To Enjoy Ham Radio Even More!

From Tim G5TM

Ever tried HF Mobile? Why should you? Learn from G5TM's experiences. [Learn how](#)

The ARRL Letter

From ARRL

Catch up with ARRL news with the February 13 ARRL Letter. [Read the newsletter](#)

More Events

Maryland Mobileers Spring Hamfest

Date: 4/27/2025

Location: Odenton, MD

Sponsor: Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/marylandmobileers/hamfest?authuser=0>

In case you
missed it,



check out the
February
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

March 6, 2025, 6-8 p.m. at Virginia Tech Innovation Campus Academic Building #1, 3625 Potomac Ave, Alexandria, VA 22305. [Registration Form](#)

Technician/General Classes

General class begins April 9, 2025, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Preregistration for either Google Meet class is required at <http://www.w3vpr.org/preregister>.



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

To be determined

Contact

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



VE Corner

Pat Stone, AC3F

Our March 22nd session has been suspended until we are able to locate a new exam site.

Exam Overview

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.

Free Exam Prep Resources

Ham Study: <https://hamstudy.org/>

Ham Radio Prep: <https://hamradioprep.com/free-ham-radio-practice-tests/>

Dave Casler 2022-2026 Technician Course: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuaplzKwhZN_30dcgsDbGU3J7C8BAYJcG

Contest Corral

March 2025

Check for updates and a downloadable PDF version online at www.arrl.org/contest-calendar.

Refer to the contest websites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Start - Finish Date-Time		Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website		
1	0000	2	2359	1.8-28	ARRL International DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, SP or pwr	www.arrl.org/arrl-dx
2	0700	2	1100	3.5	UBA Spring Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, UBA section (if ON)	www.uba.be
2	1200	2	1400	7	SARL Hamnet 40m SET	Ph	RS, serial	www.sarl.org.za
2	1200	2	2200	3.5	NSARA Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), Nova Scotia county or serial	nsara.ca
2	1800	2	2200	3.5	WAB 3.5 MHz Phone	Ph	RS, serial, WAB square or country	wab.intermpic.net/Contests.php
3	2000	3	2130	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
4	0100	4	0300	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, pwr	ars-qrp.com
4	1900	4	2100	3.5	AGCW YL-CW Party	CW	RST, serial, "YL" (if YL), name	www.agcw.de
5	2000	5	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	Ph	6-char grid	www.ukeicc.com
6	0000	7	0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk40
6	1800	6	2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid	nrau.net
8	0000	16	2359	3.5,7,21, 28,144	Novice Rig Roundup	CW	Name, QTH, optional rig or mbr	www.novicerigroundup.org
8	0800	9	1000	50,144,432	SARL VHF/UHF FM Contest	Ph	RS, 6-char grid	www.sarl.org.za
8	0800	9	1000	1.8-28	SARL Field Day Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), # of transmitters, category, SA province or "DX"	www.sarl.org.za
8	1000	9	1000	3.5-28	RSGB Commonwealth (BERU) Contest	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
8	1200	9	1200	3.5-28	EA PSK63 Contest	Dig	RSQ, EA province code or serial	concursos.ure.es
8	1200	9	1200	28	South America 10m Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), CQ zone	sa10m.com.ar/wp/rules
8	1200	9	1100	3.5-28	DIG QSO Party, SSB	Ph	RS, mbr or none	diplom-interessen-gruppe.info
8	1400	8	2000	3.5-28	AGCW QRP Contest	CW	RST, serial, pwr, mbr or "NM"	www.agcw.de
8	1500	9	1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid	www.kkn.net/stew
8	1500	9	2100	3.5-28,50	Oklahoma QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), OK county or SPC	k5cm.com/okqp.htm
8	1800	9	0559	3.5,7	Tesla Memorial HF CW Contest	CW	RST, serial, 4-char grid	www.radiosport.yu1srs.org.rs
8	1900	9	1900	1.8-28	Idaho QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), ID county or SPC	www.idahoqsoparty.org
9	0000	9	0359	3.5-14	North American Sprint, RTTY	Dig	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf
9	0700	9	1100	144	UBA Spring Contest, 2m	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, UBA section (if ON)	www.uba.be
9	0700	9	1700	3.5-28	FIRAC HF Contest	CW	RST, serial, "F" (if mbr)	www.firac.de
9	1000	9	2159	3.5-28	YOTA Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), age	www.ham-yota.com
9	1800	10	0100	No WARC	Wisconsin QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	WI county or SPC	www.warac.org
10	0000	10	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.4sqrp.com
12	2000	12	2130	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
13	1900	13	2059	3.5	BCC QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), T-shirt size	www.bavarian-contest-club.de
15	0000	15	2359	1.8-28,50	PODXS 070 Club St. Patrick's Day Contest	Dig	SPC	www.podxs070.com
15	0200	17	0159	3.5-28	BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial, 4-dig UTC	www.bartg.org.uk
15	1200	16	1200	18-28	Russian DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), oblast or serial	www.rdx.org
15	1200	16	1200	3.5-28,144	F9AA Cup, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.site.ure.asso.fr
15	1400	15	1800	144,432	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	CW	RST, serial, pwr, mbr or "NM"	www.agcw.de
15	1400	16	2359	No WARC	Virginia QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Serial, VA county or SPC	www.qsl.net/sterling
15	2300	24	0300	3.5-14	AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), name, SP, eqpt year	www.antiquewireless.org
16	0700	16	1100	3.5	UBA Spring Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial, UBA section (if ON)	www.uba.be
16	2300	17	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
17	1800	17	2059	3.5,7	Bucharest Digital Contest	FT4	RST, serial	yo3test201x.blogspot.com
17	2000	17	2200	3.5-28	RSGB FT4 Contest	FT4	Signal report	www.rsgbcc.org
19	2000	19	2100	3.5	IRTS 80m Counties Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, El/GI county (if El/GI)	www.irts.ie
20	0000	21	0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk20
20	0030	20	0230	1.8	NAQCC CW Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	naqcc.info/sprint_rules.html
20	1900	20	2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	Max 25 WPM; RST, mbr or "NM"	pi4ntc.nl/ntcqp
22	1200	23	1200	1.8-28	Africa All Mode International DX Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), serial	mysarl.org.za
23	0000	23	0400	3.5-14	North American SSB Sprint	Ph	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	sbsprint.com
23	0600	23	1000	50	UBA Spring Contest, 6m	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, UBA section (if ON)	www.uba.be
26	2000	26	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	CW	6-char grid	www.ukeicc.com
27	2000	27	2130	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
28	1900	29	0300	3.5-28	Sasquatch Stomp	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or ZIP code, name	www.pnwqrp.org
29	0000	30	2359	1.8-28	CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.cqwpx.com

There are a number of weekly contests not included in the table above. For more info, visit: www.qrfoxhunt.org, www.nccsprint.com, and www.cwops.org. All dates and times refer to UTC and may be different from calendar dates in North America. Contests are not conducted on the 60-, 30-, 17-, or 12-meter bands. Mbr = Membership number. Serial = Sequential number of the contact. SPC = State, Province, DXCC Entity. XE = Mexican state. Listings in blue indicate contests sponsored by ARRL or NCJ. The latest time to make a valid contest QSO is the minute listed in the "Finish Time" column. Data for Contest Corral is maintained on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at www.contestcalendar.com and is extracted for publication in QST 2 months prior to the month of the contest. ARRL gratefully acknowledges the support of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, in providing this service.



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

From Joe Miko, WB3FMT

The Aero ARC ran two nets in February.

On Wednesday February 12th and it ran from 20:00 - 20:30 Local. There were four participants:

W3PGA NCS	Joe	Essex
KC3HXL	Joal	Essex
K3DON	Don	Joppatowne
KA3FBL	Allen	Towson

On Wednesday February 26th and it ran from 20:00 - 20:27 Local. There were three participants:

W3PGA NCS	Joe	Essex
K3DON	Don	Joppatowne
KB3VAE	Rich	Essex

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 March 2025

(h:m) EST (EDT)

Mar 01 00:40 Moon at Ascending Node
 01 16:18 Moon at Perigee: 361967 km
 04 09 Mercury at Perihelion
 05 07:32 Pleiades 0.6°S of Moon
 06 11:32 FIRST QUARTER MOON
 08 01 Mercury at Greatest Elong: 18.2°E
 08 19:27 Mars 1.7°S of Moon
 09 06:06 Pollux 2.0°N of Moon
 12 01:07 Regulus 2.2°S of Moon
 12 05 Saturn in Conjunction with Sun
 14 01:55 FULL Worm MOON
 14 01:59 Total Lunar Eclipse; mag=1.178
 14 08:45 Moon at Descending Node
 16 14:16 Spica 0.3°N of Moon
 17 11:37 Moon at Apogee: 405754 km
 19 17 Neptune in Conjunction with Sun
 20 04:02 Vernal Equinox
 20 10:58 Antares 0.5°N of Moon
 22 06:30 LAST QUARTER MOON
 22 20 Venus at Inferior Conjunction
 24 15 Mercury at Inferior Conjunction
 28 11:29 Moon at Ascending Node
 29 05:47 Partial Solar Eclipse; mag=0.938 (Not
 Visible in MD)
 29 05:58 NEW MOON
 29 14:29 Mars 3.9°S of Pollux
 30 00:26 Moon at Perigee: 358127 km

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 07:16 EDT and Sunset 19:13 EDT

Mercury Evening Rises 07:37, Sets 20:25 Mag +1.59 and 9.2 Arc Sec.

Venus Evening Rises 07:06, Sets 20:20 Mag -4.2 and 58.2 Arc Sec.

Mars Evening Rise 13:22, Sets 04:31, Mag +0.1 and 9.5" Arc Sec.

Jupiter Evening Rises 11:00, Sets 01:43, Mag -2.2 size 37.8"

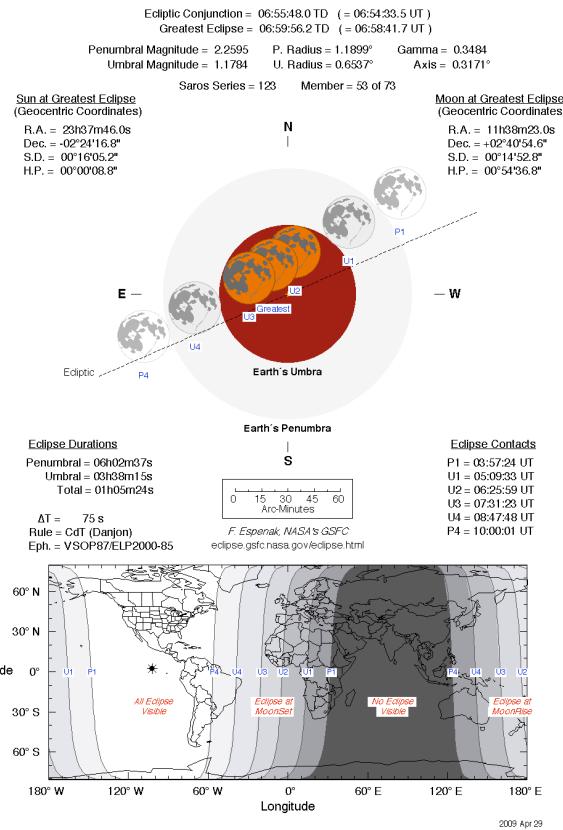
Saturn Evening Rises 07:20, Sets 18:53, Mag+1.1 size 15.9

Uranus Evening 09:52 Sets 00:07; Mag +5.8 size 3.4"

Neptune Evening Rises 07:34 Sets 19:29; Mag +8.0 size 2.4"

Full Lunar Eclipse March 14th!

Total Lunar Eclipse of 2025 Mar 14



This Lunar eclipse will be visible in the Friday morning hours of March 14th. The eclipse contacts are: Times are in UTC and EDT.

Penumbral 1 = 03:57 UT / 23:03 on 3/13 EDT

Start of Eclipse

Umbral 1 = 05:09 UTC / 01:01 EDT 3/14

Umbral 2 = 06:25 UTC / 02:25 EDT

Umbral 3 = 07:31 UTC / 03:31 EDT Greatest

Umbral 4 = 08:47 UTC / 04:47 EDT

Penumbral 4 = 10:00 UTC / 06:00 EDT End of Eclipse

The Penumbral is the light outer Earth shadow, the Umbra is the darker Earth shadow.

The color of the moon's surface at mid-point 06:25 UT or 02:25 EST can range from bright red to a charcoal color. This depends on the amount of pollutants in the atmosphere.

Sunrise will occur at 07:16 EDT.

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	Harry Rundall, AC3EK		
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

We will be meeting virtually. Check your email for the Zoom meeting link or inquire at w3pgaclub@gmail.com.

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