



THE AERO AERIAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

1 Ham News

2 Events

3 SKYWARN/ ARES/RACES

3 Training

4 Equipment & Useful Links

5 VE Corner

6 Contest Corral

7 Nets

8 From the Skies Over Mt. Essex

9 About the Club

Meetings

APRIL
2 & 16



Vecteezy.com

Ham News

Special Presentation at the April 2 Aero Meeting

From Rob AE3B

At the April 2 W3PGA meeting, Rob AE3B will give a presentation on the Antique Wireless Association and a tour of the Communication Technology Museum in Bloomfield, NY. Beside to join in the Zoom meeting at 6:00 p.m.!

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89424282341?
pwd=6s56EsIIVec8f6paZXFeNsHvT09604.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89424282341?pwd=6s56EsIIVec8f6paZXFeNsHvT09604.1)

Meeting ID: 894 2428 2341; Passcode: 147240

Radio Connects is 2025 ARRL Field Day Theme

From ARRL

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® has released the logo and theme for this year's ARRL Field Day, June 28 - 29, 2025. [Check it out now](#)

Events

World Amateur Radio Day

Date: 4/18-19/2025

Location: Global event

Sponsor: International Amateur Radio Union

Website: <https://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day>

York Hamfest

Date: 4/26/2025

Location: Glen Rock, PA

Sponsor: York Hamfest Foundation

Website: <http://yorkhamfest.org>

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>

Maryland F.M. Association Hamfest

Date: 5/25/2025

Location: West Friendship, MD

Sponsor: Maryland F.M. Association Inc.

Website: <http://marylandfm.org>

More Ham News

FCC Initiates Broad Inquiry on Rules to Delete or Amend

From ARRL

In a Public Notice titled "In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete," issued on March 12, 2025, the FCC is soliciting public input on any FCC rules. ARRL is conducting a review of the provisions in Part 97 and other related rules that apply to radio amateurs. [Learn more](#)

Ham Radio Open House

From Mike W8ZY

Ham Radio Open House is coming in April and clubs across the country are urged to participate. It's now possible for a radio club or school to add their station open house to the ARRL Ham Radio Open House Locator. [Visit the site locator](#)

What Can We Do to Get Youth into Ham Radio?

From On All Bands

Showing kids that there are other young people in Amateur Radio is by far the most effective way to get them interested. [Read the article](#)

FT8 - All You Need to Know

From M7OJA

FT8/FT4 are very powerful modes of transmission, and enable you to make contact with stations even when the conditions are too poor to make a voice contact. [Learn how](#)

My Most Embarrassing Field Radio Fail (What's Yours?)

From QRPer

One ham blog shared its readers' Greatest Bloopers while Activating. [Check out this funny news](#)

More Events

Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Father's Day Hamfest

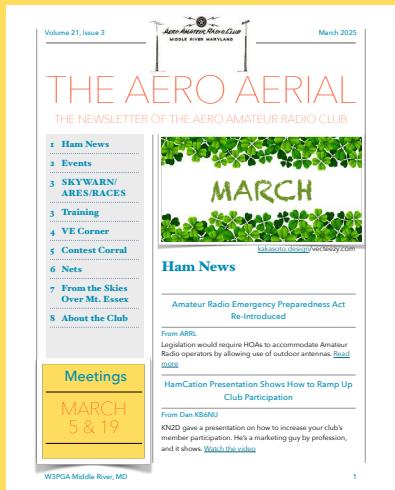
Date: 6/15/2025

Location: Upper, MD

Sponsor: Baltimore Amateur Radio Club BARC

Website: <https://w3ft.com/hamfest/>

In case you missed it,



check out the March 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

No classes scheduled at this time.

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>.



Contact Phil W3VRD at
phock@comcast.net

Yaesu FT-8900R \$250

Yaesu FT-290R2 \$150

HP 141T Spectrum Analyzer w/8555A
 8554B 8556A plugins \$75

Radio Shack MPA101 100W PA Amp
 \$40

Low pass filter \$20

Simpson 260 ser5 w/leads needs bat
 \$30

Simpson 260 ser7m no leads \$35

Simpson 260 ser7 no leads \$35

D104 Mike \$30

Radio Shack Stereo Mixer \$20

Shure Professional Mike Mixer \$30

Kepco PS 0-50V 15A cont. \$40

Yaesu FT1D Handheld \$100

Weller EC2002 Soldering station \$50

ICOM PCR100 Receiver \$40

Helpful Tools

Field Spotter

A spotting tool for portable amateur radio adventures. <https://fieldspotter.radio/>

Band Plan Generator

From LY1JA

Allows completely customizable frequency ranges and segments generating a well-designed plan for screen or print. <https://bandplan.ham.guide/>



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_30dcqsDbGU3J7C8BAYJcG



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

Session have 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

April 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
2	2000	2	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	Ph
3	0000	4	0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW
3	1700	3	2000	3.5	SARL 80m QSO Party	Ph
3	1800	3	2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig
5	0000	6	2359	1.8-28	YBDXPI SSB Contest	Ph
5	1200	6	1200	3.5-28	EA RTTY Contest	Dig
5	1200	6	1200	1.8-28	RSGB FT4 International Activity Day	FT4
5	1200	6	2359	No WARC	Georgia State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig
5	1400	6	0200	1.8-28,50,144	Louisiana QSO Party	CW Ph Dig
5	1400	6	0200	1.8-28,50,144	Mississippi QSO Party	CW Ph Dig
5	1400	6	2000	1.8-28,VHF/UHF	Missouri QSO Party	CW Ph Dig
5	1400	6	2200	3.5-28	Florida State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig
5	1500	6	1500	1.8-28	SP DX Contest	CW Ph
7	1900	7	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	CW
12	0000	12	0600	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	CW
12	0700	13	1300	1.8-28	JIDX CW Contest	CW
12	1200	13	1100	3.5-28	DIG QSO Party, CW	CW
12	1200	13	1159	1.8-28	OK/OM DX Contest, SSB	Ph
12	1200	13	1159	1.8-28, sat	Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest	CW Ph
12	1200	13	1800	3.5-28	IG-RY World Wide RTTY Contest	Dig
12	1300	13	1259	No WARC	Texas State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig
12	1400	13	0200	1.8-28,50,144	New Mexico QSO Party	CW Ph Dig
12	1500	12	1800	3.5-14	Africa FT4 DX Contest	FT4
12	1800	13	1800	1.8-28,50,144	North Dakota QSO Party	CW Ph Dig
12	1800	13	2359	1.8-28,50	Georgia QSO Party	CW Ph
13	1800	13	2359	3.5-28	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Ph
14	0000	14	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph
14	2300	15	0600	144	144 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig
16	1900	16	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	Ph
17	0000	18	0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW
17	1900	17	2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW
18	2100	19	2059	3.5-28	World Wide Holyland Contest	CW Ph
19	0500	19	0859	3.5,7	ES Open HF Championship	CW Ph
19	0600	20	0559	3.5-28	Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest	Ph
19	0700	20	0659	3.5-28	YU DX Contest	CW Ph
19	0700	19	1900	1.8-28	Dutch PACCdigi Contest	Dig
19	0800	19	1800	3.5-28	QRP to the Field	CW Ph
19	0900	20	2359	3.5-28	CQMM DX Contest	CW
19	1100	20	2259	1.8-28,VHF/UHF	Nebraska QSO Party	CW Ph Dig
19	1600	20	0400	3.5-28	Michigan QSO Party	CW Ph
19	1700	20	1200	3.5-28	EA-QRP CW Contest	CW
19	1800	20	1800	1.8-28,50,144	Ontario QSO Party	CW Ph
20	1200	20	2200	3.5-28,50,144	Quebec QSO Party	CW Ph
20	2300	21	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW
21	1500	21	1729	3.5,7	DARC Easter Contest	CW Ph
22	2300	23	0600	222	222 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig
24	1900	24	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	Dig
26	0001	27	2359	28	10-10 Int'l Spring Contest, Digital	Dig
26	1200	27	1200	3.5-28	SP DX RTTY Contest	Dig
26	1200	27	1200	3.5-28	UKEICC DX Contest, CW	CW
26	1600	27	2159	7,14,21,28	Florida QSO Party	CW Ph
28	1900	28	2100	3.5-28	RSGB FT4 Contest	Dig
30	2000	30	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	CW
30	2300	1	0600	432	432 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig

There are a number of weekly contests not included in the table above. For more info, visit: www.qrpfoxyhunt.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 March.

On Wednesday March 12th and it ran from 20:00 - 20:31 Local. There were six participants:

W3PGA	NCS	Joe	Essex
KC3HXL		Joal	Essex
K3DON		Don	Joppatowne
KB3QWC		Larry	Middle River
KB3VAE		Rich	Essex
KC3YGF		Jeffrey	Middle River

On Wednesday March 26th and it ran from 20:00 - 20:14 Local. There were three participants:

W3PGA	NCS	Joe	Essex
KC3HXL		Joel	Essex
K3DON		Don	Joppatowne

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 April 2025

Time EDT GMT- 4 Hrs EST - GMT 5

Apr 01 16:28 Pleiades 0.6°S of Moon
 04 22:15 FIRST QUARTER MOON
 05 12:46 Pollux 2.0°N of Moon
 05 15:04 Mars 2.2°S of Moon
 08 07:51 Regulus 2.2°S of Moon
 10 07 Mercury 2.1°N of Saturn
 10 15:56 Moon at Descending Node
 12 20:22 FULL Planter's MOON
 12 20:39 Spica 0.3°N of Moon
 13 18:48 Moon at Apogee: 406295 km
 16 17 Mars at Aphelion: 1.66606 AU
 16 18:19 Antares 0.4°N of Moon
 20 21:36 LAST QUARTER MOON
 21 15 Mercury at Greatest Elong: 27.4°W
 22 09 Lyrid Meteor Shower 18 p/h
 24 21:21 Venus 2.4°N of Moon
 24 22:23 Moon at Ascending Node
 25 00:15 Saturn 2.3°S of Moon
 25 21:05 Mercury 4.4°S of Moon
 27 12:15 Moon at Perigee: 357119 km
 27 15:31 NEW MOON
 28 15 Venus 3.7°N of Saturn
 29 02:35 Pleiades 0.5°S of Moon

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 06:28 EDT and Sunset 19:43 EDT

	EDT	Arc Sec
Mercury	Evening Rises 5:34, Sets 20:25	Mag +0.7 and 8.7
Venus	Morning Rises 04:56, Sets 17:11	Mag -4.5 and 47
Mars	Evening Rises 12:12, Sets 03:00,	Mag +0.7 and 7.3"
Jupiter	Evening Rises 09:16, Sets 00:04,	Mag-2.0 size 34.7
Saturn	Evening Rises 05:27, Sets 17:10 ,	Mag+1.2 size 15.9
Uranus	Evening Rises 07:54 Sets 22:09;	Mag +5.8 size 3.4"
Neptune	Evening Rises 05:34 Sets 17:32;	Mag +8.0 size 2.4"

Meteor Terminology by the American Meteor Society

www.amsmeteors.org

Comet - A solid body made of ice, rock dust and frozen gasses. As they fracture and disintegrate, some comets leave a trail of solid debris. *Nucleus (solid part): tens of kilometers, Tail: millions of kilometers.*

Asteroid - Small rocky, iron, or icy debris flying in space. *From 1 meter to hundreds of kilometers.*

Meteoroid - A small asteroid. From microns to 1 meter.

Meteor - The light emitted from a meteoroid or an asteroid as it enters the atmosphere.

Meteor Shower - An annual event, when the Earth passes through a region having a great concentration of debris, such as particles left by a comet. From Earth, it looks meteors radiate from the same point in the sky. *(This is called the Meteor Radiant Point)*

Fireball - A meteor brighter than the planet Venus. *(Venus's magnitude ranges from -4.9 to -3.8)*

Bolide - The light emitted by a large meteoroid or an asteroid as it explodes in the atmosphere.

Meteorite - A fragment of a meteoroid or an asteroid that survives passage through the atmosphere and hits the ground. *From a few grams to several dozens of tones.*

There are 11 meteor showers producing noticeable displays throughout the year. Meteor showers are names for the constellations from which they appear to radiate from. All but 1 of the 11 meteor radiant point constellations have a familiar name! The unique shower name is Quadrantid, taken from a Mural Quadrant created by French Astronomer Jerome Lalande in 1795. This now-obsolete constellation was located between Boötes, the Herdsman and Draco the Dragon.

Shower Name	Date	Rate
1. Quadrantids	Jan 4 th	110
2. April Lyrids	Apr 22 nd	18
3. H Aquariids	May 5 th	50
4. S δ Aquariids	July 29 th	25
5. Perseids	Aug 12 th	100
6. Draconids	Oct 8 th	10
7. Orionids	Oct 24 th	20
8. N Taurids	Nov 12 th	5
9. Leonids	Nov 17 th	15
10. Geminids	Dec 14 th	150
11. Ursids	Dec 23 rd	10

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 at 6:00 PM ET. Check your email for the Zoom meeting link or inquire at w3pgaclub@gmail.com.

All are welcome to attend.

April 2 link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89424282341?>

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