



THE AERO AERIAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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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=6s56EslVec8f6paZXFENsHvT09604.1>

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](#)

Meetings

APRIL
2 & 16

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

Simson 260 ser7m no leads \$35

Simson 260 ser7 no leads \$35

D104 Mike \$30

Radio Shack Stereo Mixer \$20

Shure Professional Mike Mixer \$30

Kepeco 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_30dcgsDbGU3J7C8BAYJcG



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
Date-Time	Date-Time							
2	2000	2	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	Ph	6-char grid	www.ukeicc.com/80m-rules.php
3	0000	4	0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr	qrptest.com/pigwalk40
3	1700	3	2000	3.5	SARL 80m QSO Party	Ph	RS, serial, grid locator or QTH	www.sarl.org.za
3	1800	3	2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid	nrau.net
5	0000	6	2359	1.8-28	YBDXPI SSB Contest	Ph	RS, serial	contest.ybdxpi.net
5	1200	6	1200	3.5-28	EA RTTY Contest	Dig	RSQ, province or serial	concursos.ure.es
5	1200	6	1200	1.8-28	RSGB FT4 International Activity Day	FT4	Signal report	www.rsgb.org
5	1200	6	2359	No WARC	Georgia State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), park nbr or SPC	gaparks.org
5	1400	6	0200	1.8-28,50,144	Louisiana QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), LA parish or SPC	laqp.louisianacontestclub.org
5	1400	6	0200	1.8-28,50,144	Mississippi QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), MS parish or SPC	www.arlmiss.org
5	1400	6	2000	1.8-28,VHF/UHF	Missouri QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), MO county or SPC	www.w0ma.org
5	1400	6	2200	3.5-28	Florida State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	Park nbr or SP	flspot.org/rules
5	1500	6	1500	1.8-28	SP DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), SP province or serial	spdxcontest.pzk.org.pl
7	1900	7	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
12	0000	12	0600	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	CW	RS, SPC, mbr or pwr	qrparci.org
12	0700	13	1300	1.8-28	JIDX CW Contest	CW	RST, JS prefecture or CQ zone	www.jidx.org
12	1200	13	1100	3.5-28	DIG QSO Party, CW	CW	RST, mbr (if member)	diplom-interessen-gruppe.info
12	1200	13	1159	1.8-28	OK/OM DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, OK/MO county code or serial	okomdx.crk.cz
12	1200	13	1159	1.8-28, sat	Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest	CW Ph	RST, ITU zone	gcontest.ru
12	1200	13	1800	3.5-28	IG-RY World Wide RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, 4-dig yr first licensed	www.ig-ry.de
12	1300	13	1259	No WARC	Texas State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	RST, park nbr or SPC	www.tspot.org
12	1400	13	0200	1.8-28,50,144	New Mexico QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Name, NM county or SPC	www.newmexicoqsoparty.org
12	1500	12	1800	3.5-14	Africa FT4 DX Contest	FT4	Signal report, 4-char grid	www.sarl.org.za
12	1800	13	1800	1.8-28,50,144	North Dakota QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), ND county or SPC	ndarrisection.com
12	1800	13	2359	1.8-28,50	Georgia QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), GA county or SPC	gaqsoparty.com
13	1800	13	2359	3.5-28	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Ph	Name, 2-dig yr first licensed, state/province/XE area/DX	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
14	0000	14	0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.4sqrp.com
14	2300	15	0600	144	144 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
16	1900	16	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
17	0000	18	0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name, mbr or pwr	qrptest.com/pigwalk20
17	1900	17	2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	Max 25 WPM; RST, mbr or "NM"	pi4ntc.nl
18	2100	19	2059	3.5-28	World Wide Holyland Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 4X area or serial	tools.iarc.org/wwhc
19	0500	19	0859	3.5,7	ES Open HF Championship	CW Ph	RS(T), serial	erau.ee
19	0600	20	0559	3.5-28	Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest	Ph	RS(T), BY province or serial	www.mulandxc.com
19	0700	20	0659	3.5-28	YU DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), YU/YT county or serial	www.yudx.yu1srs.org.rs
19	0700	19	1900	1.8-28	Dutch PACCdigi Contest	Dig	Signal report, 2-char PA province or serial	www.veron.nl
19	0800	19	1800	3.5-28	QRP to the Field	CW Ph	RST, SPC, name/station code (see rules)	www.zianet.com
19	0900	20	2359	3.5-28	CQMM DX Contest	CW	RST, continent abbr, mbr code (if any)	www.cqmmdx.com
19	1100	20	2259	1.8-28,VHF/UHF	Nebraska QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	NE county or SPC (FT4/FT8: 4-char grid)	nebraskaqsoparty.com
19	1600	20	0400	3.5-28	Michigan QSO Party	CW Ph	RST, MI county or SPC	miqp.org
19	1700	20	1200	3.5-28	EA-QRP CW Contest	CW	RST, category, "M" if mbr	www.eaqrp.com
19	1800	20	1800	1.8-28,50,144	Ontario QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), ON county or SPC	www.va3cco.com
20	1200	20	2200	3.5-28,50,144	Quebec QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), QC zone or SPC	wp1.quebecqsoparty.org
20	2300	21	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	qrptest.com/plgrun
21	1500	21	1729	3.5,7	DARC Easter Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), DOK or serial	www.darc.de
22	2300	23	0600	222	222 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints
24	1900	24	2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org
26	0001	27	2359	28	10-10 Int'l Spring Contest, Digital	Dig	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
26	1200	27	1200	3.5-28	SP DX RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, SP 2-letter province or serial	www.pkvrq.org
26	1200	27	1200	3.5-28	UK/EI DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, UK/EI district code, serial	www.ukeicc.com
26	1600	27	2159	7,14,21,28	Florida QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), FL county or SPC	floridagsoparty.org
28	1900	28	2100	3.5-28	RSGB FT4 Contest	Dig	Signal report	www.rsgbcc.org
30	2000	30	2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	CW	6-char grid	www.ukeicc.com
30	2300	1	0600	432	432 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid	sites.google.com/site/springvhfupsprints

There are a number of weekly contests not included in the table above. For more info, visit: www.qrpfoxhunt.org, www.ncccsprint.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 named 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