



THE AERO AERIAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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Ham News

Field Day Page

From Rob, AE3B

The 2025 Field Day page is up on the website. Check it out at <https://w3pga.net/field-day-2025/>

Local HAMS Respond to Texas Floods

From RV Radio Network

The Texas flooding is a great example of how local hams can assist their communities during a disaster. [Read the description and see the pictures of ham radio operators in action.](#)

A Tragic Reminder: Safety First in the Field

From Thomas Witherspoon (K4SWL)

A tragic accident occurred while setting up a vertical antenna. [Learn what happened.](#)

Meetings

AUGUST
6 AND 20

Events

SVARC Berryville Hamfest

Date: 8/3/2025

Location: Berryville, VA

Sponsor: Shenandoah Valley
Amateur Radio Club

Website: [https://
berryvillehamfest.com/](https://berryvillehamfest.com/)

Valley Forge Hamfest

Date: 8/10/2025

Location: Phoenixville, PA

Sponsor: Mid-Atlantic Amateur
Radio Club

Website: [https://www.marc-
radio.org/hamfest2.htm](https://www.marc-radio.org/hamfest2.htm)

Southern NJ Conference and HamFest

Date: 9/7/2025

Location: Mullica Hill, NJ

Sponsor: Gloucester County
Amateur Radio Club

Website: [http://
HamFest.W2MMD.org](http://HamFest.W2MMD.org)

Red Rose Repeater Association Hamfest

Date: 10/4/2025

Location: New Holland, PA

Sponsor: Red Rose Repeater
Association Hamfest

Website: w3rrr.org

W3PGA Middle River, MD

More Ham News

Ham Radio Users Clash With Starlink Rival AST SpaceMobile Over Spectrum Use

From PC Mag

AST wants to use the 430 to 440MHz band for satellite-to-phone service. Ham radio enthusiasts say that could interfere with their slim slice of spectrum. [Learn more](#)

Modern Satellite Tracking for Amateur Radio

From Zenith Satellite Tracker

Real-time satellite tracking, pass predictions, and radio hardware integration designed for amateur radio operators. Use online or self-host. [Try it online](#)

BARC New Hams Net

From MDC Section News

Second and Forth Thursdays - 1900 hosted on the BARC Repeater: W3FT - 146.670- Tone 107.2 EchoLink: N3FQC-R. Everyone is welcome but geared toward new hams to get them comfortable being on the air and asking questions. We all had mic fright, this is the place to hit the TX button for the first time and get on the air."

The Strange Story of Delaware

From The History Guy (shared by Harry AC3EK)

We always seek out contacts in Delaware during Field Day or other contests. This video provides a history lesson of what we may or may not know of the First State of our Union when it was a colony. [Watch now](#)

ARRL Links

From Harry AC3EK

Subscribe to the [ARRL Bulletins](#) or [ARRL Audio News](#) to stay up to date on ham radio information.

More Events

CARA Fest 2025

Date: 10/5/2025

Location: West Friendship, MD

Sponsor: Columbia ARC

Website: www.carafest.org

SMCARA Tailgate Fest

Date: 10/11/2025

Location: Hollywood, MD

Sponsor: St. Mary's County ARC

Website: <https://smcara.org>

In case you
missed it,



check out the
July issue.

SKYWARN, ARES, RACES

SKYWARN® is a national network of volunteer severe weather spotters. The spotters are trained by local National Weather Service Forecast Offices on how to spot severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, hail and flooding. In some parts of the country, spotters also report snowfall and ice accumulation.

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.

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

Training

SKYWARN® Advanced Tropical Class

August 2, 2025, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Prince George's County Office of Emergency Management, 7914 Anchor Street, Hyattsville, MD 20785

SKYWARN® Advanced Severe Class

August 20, 2025, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Carroll County Public Safety Training Center, 50 Kate Wagner Rd, Westminster, MD 21157



Radio License Exams

The Aero Amateur Radio Club sponsors Amateur Radio License Exams with the ARRL VEC. Examination sessions are offered throughout the year (dates TBD).

W3PGA Exam Location

Essex Sky Park, 1401 Diffendall Rd, Essex MD 21221-6507

[Pre-registration is required.](#)

Contact

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

VE Corner

Pat Stone, AC3F

We will be testing at the Essex Sky Park on Sept. 20th at 11am. [Pre-registration is required.](#)

Other Maryland Test Sites

8/5/25, 5:45 pm: [Severna Park](#), register or call ahead

8/16/25, 2:30 pm: [Catonsville](#), walk-ins allowed

8/16/25, 9:00 am: [Laurel](#), walk-ins allowed

8/23/25, 8:45 am: [Forest Hill](#), walk-ins allowed

9/2/25, 5:45 pm: [Severna Park](#), register or call ahead

9/6/25, 2:30 pm: [Catonsville](#), walk-ins allowed

9/2/25, 5:45 pm: [Severna Park](#), register or call ahead

9/20/25, 9:00 am: [Laurel](#), walk-ins allowed

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.

Contest Corral

August 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 Date-Time	Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
2 0001 3 2359	28	10-10 International Summer Contest, SSB	Ph	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org
2 1200 2 2359	1.8-28	European HF Championship	CW Ph	RS(T), 2-digit year first licensed	euhf.s5cc.eu
2 1800 3 0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, CW	CW	Name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com
2 1800 3 1800	222 MHz and up	ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid square	www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest
3 0600 3 1359	144	Hemus VHF Contest - 144 MHz	CW Ph	RS(T), 6-char grid square	radioclub-troyan.bg
3 1400 3 1700	3.5-14	SARL HF Phone Contest	Ph	RS, serial	mysarl.org.za
5 0000 5 0200	3.5-28	ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	RST, SPC, power	ars-qrp.com
5 0800 5 0929	3.5	ZL Sprint	CW Ph Dig	CW/SSB: RS(T), outside temp; FT4: 4-char grid	www.nzart.org.nz
6 1700 6 2100	144	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	www.ft8activity.eu
7 0000 8 0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk40
7 1800 7 2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrau.net/nrau-contests-in-general
9 0000 10 2359	3.5-28	WAE DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.darc.de
9 0000 9 2359	3.5-28	FISTS Saturday Sprint	CW	RST, first name, mbr or "0," SPC	fistsna.org
9 1200 10 1159	3.5, 7, 28	YB Bekasi Merdeka Contest	Ph	RS, YB section or "DX"	bmc.orari-kotabekasi.com
9 1400 10 0400	1.8-28	Maryland-DC QSO Party	CW Ph	MDC county/city or SPC	www.w3vpr.org
9 1400 9 2200	3.5-28	Kentucky State Parks on the Air	CW Ph Dig	KY park abbr, SP or "DX"	k4msu.com/kypota
9 1800 9 2200	50	50 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	packratvhf.com
10 1300 10 1600	3.5-14	SARL HF Digital Contest	Dig	RST, serial	mysarl.org.za
11 0000 11 0200	1.8-28	4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, mbr or pwr	www.4sqrp.com
11 2200 13 2159	144	MMMonVHF/DUBUS 144 MHz Meteorscatter Sprint Contest	CW Ph Dig	Signal report	www.mmmmonvhf.de
12 0800 12 0929	3.5	ZL Sprint	CW Ph Dig	CW/SSB: RS(T), outside temp; FT4: 4-char grid	www.nzart.org.nz
12 1900 12 2029	3.5	DARC FT4 Contest	Dig	RST, 4-char grid square	www.darc.de
13 1700 13 2100	432	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	www.ft8activity.eu
16 0000 17 1600	3.5-28	SARTG WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.sartg.com
16 0000 17 2359	2.3 GHz and up	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	See rules	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
16 0800 17 0800	1.8-28	Russian District Award Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), RU district code or serial	rdaward.org/rdac1.htm
16 0900 18 0759	10 GHz to light	ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid square	www.arrl.org/10-ghz-up
16 1200 16 1300	7	SARL Youth QSO Party	Ph	RS, age	mysarl.org.za
16 1600 16 1759	1.8-28, 50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	See rules	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
16 1200 17 1200	1.8-28, 50	Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	CW	RST, JA prefecture/district code or CQ zone	kcj-cw.com
16 1800 17 0559	1.8-28	North American QSO Party, SSB	Ph	Name, state/DC/province/country	www.ncjweb.com
16 1800 17 2100	1.8-28	CVA DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, PY state, continent or "MIL"	cvadx.org
17 0000 17 2359	3.5-28	FISTS Sunday Sprint	CW	RST, first name, mbr or "0," SPC	fistsna.org
17 1700 17 2100	3.5-28	NJQRP Skeeter Hunt	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC mbr or power, "W"	www.qsl.net/w2lj
17 1800 17 2359	3.5-28	ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	Dig	Name, 2-digit year first licensed, SPC or XE province	www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup
17 2300 18 0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, (mbr/pwr)	qrpcontest.com/pigrun
19 0800 19 0929	3.5	ZL Sprint	CW Ph Dig	CW/SSB: RS(T), outside temp; FT4: 4-char grid	www.nzart.org.nz
20 1700 20 2100	1.2 GHz	VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	www.ft8activity.eu
21 0000 22 0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	Max 13 WPM; RST, SPC, name	qrpcontest.com/pigwalk20
21 1900 21 2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	Max 25 WPM, RST, mbr or "NM"	pi4ntc.nl
23 0400 25 0400	1.8-28	Hawaii QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), HI district, or SP	www.hawaiiqsoparty.org
23 1200 24 1200	3.5-28	YO DX HF Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), YO county, or serial	www.yodx.ro
23 1600 24 0400	1.8-28	Ohio QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), OH county, SP or "DX"	www.ohqp.org
23 1800 24 2100	1.8-28	CVA DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, PY state, continent or "MIL"	cvadx.org
24 1400 24 1700	3.5-14	SARL HF CW Contest	CW	RST, serial	mysarl.org.za
26 0800 26 0929	3.5	ZL Sprint	CW Ph Dig	CW/SSB: RS(T), outside temp; FT4: 4-char grid	www.nzart.org.nz
29 2200 31 2359	1.8-28	SCRY/RTTYOps WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, 4-digit year license first issued	rttyops.com/index.php
30 0000 30 2359	1.8-28, 50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	See rules	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
30 0600 31 0559	3.5-28	ALARA Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, name	www.alara.org.au
30 1200 31 0300	1.8-28, 50	U.S. Islands QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), island designation or SPC	usislands.org
30 1200 31 1200	1.8-28	World Wide Digi DX Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	ww-digi.com
30 1300 31 0400	All, except WARC	Colorado QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	Name, county or SPC/DX prefix	ppraa.org/coqp
30 1400 31 2000	3.5-28, 50	Kansas QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), KS county, SP or "DX"	ksqsoparty.org

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 440 net on July 9 was cancelled due to storms.

The Aero ARC had its 2-meter net on July 23. The net ran from 00:00 to 00:24. There were 5 participants.

NCS	AC3F	Pat	Middle River
	K3DON	Don	Joppatowne
	KB3VAE	Rich	Essex
	WA3QLY	Tom	Middle River
	KB3QWC	Larry	Middle River

The Aero ARC had its 10-meter net on July 30. Net start time 00:00 ended 00:18. Band conditions were very poor so we ended early.

NCS	AC3F	Pat	Middle River
	KB3AJD	Marty	
	KB3QWC	Larry	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	3.557 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
2nd & 4th Tue	7 pm	146.775, (-) PL 146.2	Harford County, MD, ARES
4th Wed	8 pm	147.240	Aero ARC Net
5th Wed	8 pm	28.445	Aero ARC Net
3rd Fri	8 pm	WASH_DC Node 6154	MDC Section EchoLink
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 August 2025

Time EDT GMT - 4 Hrs EST - GMT 5

Aug	01	08:41	FIRST QUARTER MOON
	01	16:37	Moon at Apogee: 404164 km
	03	21:40	Antares 0.6°N of Moon
	09	03:55	FULL "Dog Days" MOON
	11	10:53	Moon at Ascending Node
	12	03	Venus 0.9°S of Jupiter
	12	11:05	Saturn 4.0°S of Moon
	12	16	Perseid Meteor Shower
	14	1401	Moon at Perigee: 369287 km
	16	01:12	LAST QUARTER MOON
	16	12:09	Pleiades 0.9°S of Moon
	19	06	Mercury at Greatest Elong: 18.6°W
	19	17:05	Jupiter 4.8°S of Moon
	20	08:07	Pollux 2.4°N of Moon
	21	12:14	Mercury 3.7°S of Moon
	23	02:06	NEW MOON
	24	11:41	Moon at Descending Node
	26	11:41	Mars 2.8°N of Moon
	27	08	Mercury at Perihelion
	27	09:57	Spica 1.1°N of Moon
	29	11:34	Moon at Apogee: 404552 km
	31	03:25	FIRST QUARTER MOON
	31	05:55	Antares 0.7°N of Moon

Planet Lookout at mid-Month

Sunrise 06:18 EDT and Sunset 20:00 EDT

Mercury Morning Rises 04:56, Sets 18:58 Mag +0.8 and 8.3 Arc Sec.

Venus Morning Rises 03:27, Sets 18:05 Mag -4.0 and 13.4 Arc Sec.

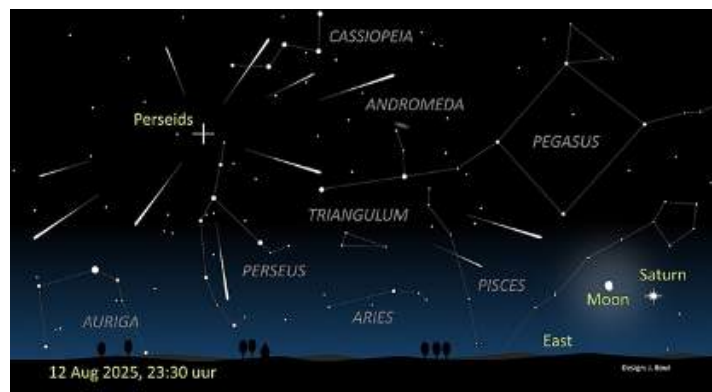
Mars Evening Rise 09:52, Sets 21:45, Mag +1.6 and 4.3" Arc Sec.

Jupiter Morning Rises 03:10, Sets 17:54, Mag -1.9 size 33.3" Arc Sec.

Saturn Evening Rises 21:37, Sets 09:33, Mag +0.8 size 19.1" Arc Sec.

Uranus Morning Rises 00:13 Sets 14:38; Mag +5.8 size 3.4"

Neptune Morning Rises 21:34 Sets 09:38; Mag +7.9 size 2.5



Perseids Meteor Shower 8/12/25 after 11:00 pm

This meteor shower display normally has 50 to 100 meteors visible per hour.

You don't need a telescope, or binoculars.

You need a comfortable lawn chair that leans back, so you can rest.

You may need a blanket and long sleeve shirt, for insect control. Maybe some bug spray.

Bring something to drink, coffee, ice tea, soda or?

Position your chair so it faces North East

To block street lights and Moon light, try to get near a dark corner of your viewing area.

Moon Rise 21:52 EDT, it is 3 Days Past Full Az 84.45°, Alt 0°

Perseids Constellation is in the NE part of the sky. It is left of Cassiopeia "BIG W", you will find Perseus.

Both constellations will be in the North Eastern Sky by 11pm. Az (horizon) 24° Alt 14°.

Sample sizes for space viewing!

The full Moon is 1/2° degree.

Little Finger 1° degree.

Three middle fingers 5° degrees.

Closed Fist 5° degrees.

Index and Little Finger Spread apart 15° degrees.

The Radiant Point is where meteors appear to come from in space.

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 meet in person at 7:00 PM ET in the Essex Sky Park hanger.
If a Zoom link is available, it will be sent via email or inquire at w3pgaclub@gmail.com.
All are welcome to attend. Arrive early to socialize.

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