



THE AERO AERIAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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Ham News

New Aero Club Licensing Page!

From Rob, AE3B

The new Aero Amateur Radio Club licensing page is now up on the website. Check it out and let Rob know what you think!

[Licensing page](#)

ARRL Launches Nationwide Grassroots Campaign to Pass Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act

From ARRL

ARRL has launched a nationwide grassroots campaign aimed at securing the passage of federal legislation that would grant Amateur Radio Operators the same rights to install antennas on their property as those enjoyed by users of TV antennas, wireless internet, and flagpoles. [Read more](#)

Meetings

OCTOBER
1 AND 15

Events

Red Rose Repeater Association Hamfest

Date: 10/4/2025

Location: New Holland, PA

Sponsor: Red Rose Repeater
Association Hamfest

Website: w3rrr.org

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>

RF Hill ARC Hamfest

Date: 10/19/2025

Location: Perkasie, PA

Sponsor: RF Hill ARC

Website: [http://
www.rfhillarc.club](http://www.rfhillarc.club)

More Ham News

Officials Enlist Amateur Radio Operators as Critical Backup for Extreme Weather Planning

From The Cool Down

"When the lights go out, we can keep going." While the use of ham radios has long been left mostly to amateur radio enthusiasts, officials increasingly have seen the relatively low-tech devices as an important means of communication during emergency situations, the *Globe and Mail* reported. [Read more](#)

ARRL Lab Helps Radio Amateurs Avoid Interfering With U.S. Space Force Radar

From ARRL

U.S. Space Command headquarters is being moved to Huntsville, Alabama, known as "Rocket City USA." Huntsville will host the 2026 ARRL National Convention as part of the Huntsville Hamfest, but there's a bigger connection between US Space Command and amateur radio. [Learn more](#)

Novel Amateur Radio Drill Aids in Emergency Communications at Paducah

From U.S. Department of Energy

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management Paducah Site has incorporated amateur radio into a drill for its emergency management program. [Learn more](#)

How Morse Code Is Being Used by Major Brands

From On All Bands

The world of amateur radio often spills into popular culture. Read about occurrences of ham radio and Morse code in movies, music, and more in these OnAllBands posts. [Read more](#)

More Events

Octoberfest

Date: 10/25/2026

Location: Harrisburg, VA

Sponsor: Harrisburg RAC

Website: <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/oktoberfest-5>

Thawfest IV

Date: 4/11/2026

Location: Madison, VA

Sponsor: Greene County ARC

Website: <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests/thawfest-iv>

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® Basics & Winter Class

October 2, 2025, 6:00-8:00 p.m.,
Cecil County Department of Emergency Services,
107 Chesapeake Blvd. #108, Elkton, MD 21921

SKYWARN® Basics Class

October 29, 2025, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.,
East Columbia 50+ Senior Center
6610 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045

In case you
missed it,



check out the
September issue.

A colorful illustration for the 'Wings & Wheels' event. At the top, a large orange and yellow biplane flies against a blue sky with white clouds. Below the plane, a green tractor with a trailer full of people is parked on a grassy field. To the right of the tractor are two classic cars, one yellow and one orange. In the background, there is a white building with a blue roof and the 'Essex Skypark' logo. The text 'WINGS & WHEELS' is written in large, bold, yellow letters at the top. Below it, smaller text reads: 'Celebrating the 100th anniversary of Jimmy Doolittle's Schneider Trophy Air Race Victory!', 'Special guest presenter: Jeremy Kinney, Curator, National Air and Space Museum', and 'Sat, October 18, 2025 9AM-4PM'. At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains white text listing activities: 'Airplane & Helicopter Rides • Hot Rods and Show Cars • Free Hayrides', 'RC Model Club • Ham Radio Club • Pedal Planes • Simulators', and 'Tasty Maryland Food Truck • Music • Fun for All Ages!'. Below this banner, more text reads: 'Public Welcome • \$5 requested donation per car • www.essexskyparkassn.org' and 'Essex Skypark (W48) 1401 Diffendall Rd, Essex, MD 21221'.

The Aero Club will have a table at the Essex Skypark this year for the 2025 Wings & Wheels Event and needs club volunteers.

The event runs 9AM-4PM on Saturday, 10/18, but we'll want to get there early to set up. Please join us at the October 1 meeting at Essex Skypark to discuss.

[Click for more details about this event](#)



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

The AERO VE Team held its September Exam session on Saturday the 22nd. We served 2 applicants. Congratulations to new Technician Brian Majka Jr. and new extra his dad, KD3BOJ.

Many thanks to VEs: WA3QLY, KB3VAE, and N3RES for assisting me with this session. We couldn't do this without you. Hope to see you in November. It's always a joy working with you.

Our next test session of will be held on Saturday, November 15th at 11AM at the American Legion Post in Dundalk. [Register or call ahead.](#)

Hope to see you then.

Visit our new licensing page to prepare:

<https://w3pga.net/getting-your-license/>

Other Maryland Test Sites

10/4/25, 2:30 pm: [Catonsville](#), walk-ins allowed

10/7/25, 5:45 pm: [Severna Park](#), register or call ahead

10/11/25, 8:45 am: [Forest Hill](#), register or call ahead

10/18/25, 9:00 am: [Laurel](#), walk-ins allowed

11/1/25, 2:30 pm: [Catonsville](#), walk-ins allowed

11/4/25, 5:45 pm: [Severna Park](#), register or call ahead

11/15/25, 9:00 am: [Laurel](#), walk-ins allowed

12/2/25, 5:45 pm: [Severna Park](#), register or call ahead

12/6/25, 2:30 pm: [Catonsville](#), walk-ins allowed

12/13/25, 8:45 am: [Forest Hill](#), register or call ahead

How We Became HAMs

From ARRL, shared by Joe Miko, WB3FMT

"Ham radio" was named after the 19th-century telegraph term "ham-fisted," which described incompetent Morse code operators. Professional telegraphers applied the derogatory term to unskilled amateur radio operators. Over time, the amateur radio community adopted the nickname with pride, and the original negative connotation has largely disappeared.

The Derogatory Origin

Wired Telegraphy: In the era of wired telegraphy, a "ham-fisted" operator was someone who sent Morse code poorly or clumsily.

Amateur Radio: When amateur radio emerged, professional and commercial operators used the term "ham" to describe the enthusiasts with their makeshift equipment.

The "Fist": The "fist" refers to an operator's personal style of sending Morse code, and a "ham-fisted" operator had a poor, amateurish style.

Adoption and Evolution

Embrace by Amateurs: By the early 1920s, the term was so common that the amateur radio community began to use it for themselves.

Pride and Community: The community embraced the name, and it became a term of endearment and pride, losing its original negative meaning.

Debunked Theories

Several theories about the name's origin have been disproven:

Hertz-Armstrong-Marconi: The idea that "HAM" is an acronym for the last names of Heinrich Hertz, Edwin Armstrong, and Guglielmo Marconi is false, as Edwin Armstrong was an unknown student when the term first appeared.

Home Amateur Mechanic: Another theory suggests it's an abbreviation for a magazine called "Home Amateur Mechanic," but there's no confirmation of such a publication.

Contest Corral

October 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	
1	2000	1 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	Ph	6-char grid square	www.ukeicc.com	
2	0000	3 0300	7	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	13 WPM max; RST, SPC, name, mbr/pwr	qrptest.com/pigwalk40	
2	1700	2 2000	3.5	SARL 80m QSO Party	Ph	RS, serial, grid or QTH	www.sarl.org.za	
2	1800	2 2200	28	NRAU 10m Activity Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), 6-char grid square	nrau.net	
4	0000	5 2359	No WARC	Collegiate QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	School ID or SPC, RS(T)	collegiateqso.com	
4	0600	5 0559	3.5-28	Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest	CW	RST, 2-character BY province or serial	www.mulandxc.com	
4	0600	5 0600	1.8-28	Oceania DX Contest, Phone	Ph	RS, serial	www.oceaniadxcontest.com	
4	1200	5 1159	1.8-28	Russian WW Digital Contest	Dig	RST(Q), oblast code or serial	www.rdrclub.ru	
4	1400	5 1400	See rules	IARU Region 1 UHF/Microwaves Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), serial, 6-char grid square	www.iaru-r1.org	
4	1600	5 1100	3.5,7	International HELL-Contest	Dig	RST, serial	www.darc.de	
4	1600	5 2200	1.8-28	California QSO Party	CW Ph	Serial, CA county or SPC	www.cqp.org	
4	2200	4 2359	3.5,7	IARU Region 2 Area G HF SSB Contest	Ph	RS, serial	concursoareag.lu4aa.org	
5	0600	5 1000	3.5	UBA ON Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial, ON section (if ON)	www.uba.be	
5	2200	5 2359	3.5-14	Peanut Power QRP Sprint	CW Ph	RS(T), SPC, peanut no. or pwr	www.nogaqrp.org	
6	1900	6 2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org	
8	2300	9 0600	432	432 MHz Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	packratvhf.com	
10	0001	10 2359	28	10-10 Int'l 10-10 Day Sprint	CW Ph Dig	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org	
11	0000	12 1559	3.5-28	Makrothen RTTY Contest	Dig	4-char grid square	www.pl259.org	
11	0000	12 2359	50-1296	ARRL EME Contest	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	www.arrl.org/eme-contest	
11	0000	11 2359	1.8-28	QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	qrparci.org	
11	0300	12 2100	1.8-28,VHF/UHF	Nevada QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), NV county or ARRL/RAC Section/DX'	nvqso.com	
11	0600	12 0600	1.8-28	Oceania DX Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial	www.oceaniadxcontest.com	
11	1200	12 1200	3.5-28	Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.sactest.net	
11	1500	12 0500	1.8-28	Arizona QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), AZ county or SPC	www.azqp.org	
11	1600	12 2200	No WARC	Pennsylvania QSO Party	CW Ph	Serial, PA county or ARRL/RAC Section	paqso.org	
11	1800	12 1800	1.8-28,50,144	South Dakota QSO Party	CW Ph	RS(T), SD county or SPC	www.sdqso.com	
11	2000	12 2000	1.8	PODXS 070 Club 160m Great Pumpkin Sprint	Dig	RST, SPC	www.podxs070.com	
12	0600	12 1000	3.5	UBA ON Contest, CW	CW	RST, serial, ON Section (if ON)	www.uba.be	
14	1800	14 1929	3.5,7	DARC RTTY Sprint	Dig	RST, DOK/NM," or serial	www.darc.de	
15	1900	15 2030	3.5,7	AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	CW	RST, serial, 2-digit year first used a bug	www.agcw.de	
15	1900	15 2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data	Dig	RST, serial	www.rsgbcc.org	
16	0000	17 0300	14	Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	13 WPM max; RST, SPC, name, mbr/pwr	qrptest.com/pigwalk20	
16	1900	16 2000	3.5-14	NTC QSO Party	CW	25 WPM max; RST, mbr, or "NM"	pi4ntc.nl	
18	0000	19 2359	3.5-28	JARTS WW RTTY Contest	Dig	RST, age of operator	jarts.jp	
18	0001	19 2359	28	10-10 Int'l Fall Contest, CW	CW	Name, mbr or "0," SPC	www.ten-ten.org	
18	1400	19 0200	No WARC	New York QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), NY county or SPC	www.nyqp.org	
18	1400	20 0200	No WARC	YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest	CW Ph Dig	Serial, RS(T), ARRL Section or PC	ylrl.net/contests	
18	1500	19 1459	3.5-28	Worked All Germany Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), DOK or "NM" or serial	www.darc.de	
18	1500	19 1500	1.8	Stew Perry Topband Challenge	CW	4-char grid square	www.kkn.net/stew	
18	2000	18 2359	1.8-28,50	Feld Hell Sprint	Dig	Mbr, SPC, grid square	sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub	
18	2130	18 2330	7	Argentina National 7 MHz Contest	Ph	RS, 2-digit year first licensed	www.lu4aa.org	
19	0000	19 0200	14,21	Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	CW	RST, serial	jsfc.org	
19	0700	19 1000	144	UBA ON Contest, 2m	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, ON Section (if ON)	www.uba.be	
19	1700	20 0100	1.8-28,50,144	Illinois QSO Party	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), IL county or SPC	w9awe.org/ilqp	
19	2300	20 0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or pwr	qrptest.com/pigrun	
20	1300	24 2359	No WARC	ARRL School Club Roundup	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), class (I/C/S), SPC	www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup	
22	2000	22 2100	3.5	IRTS 80m Counties Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), serial, EI/GI county (if EI/GI)	www.irts.ie	
23	1900	23 2030	3.5	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	www.rsgbcc.org	
25	0000	26 2359	1.8-28	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	Ph	RS, CQ zone	www.cqww.com	
25	0800	25 1400	902 and above	902 MHz and Up Fall Sprint	CW Ph Dig	6-char grid square	packratvhf.com	
26	1300	29 0700	1.8-28,50,144	Classic Exchange, CW	CW	Name, RST, SPC, rcvr/xmtr model	www.classicexchange.org	
27	1900	27 2100	3.5-28	RSGB FT4 Contest	Dig	Signal report	www.rsgbcc.org	
29	2000	29 2100	3.5	UKEICC 80m Contest	CW	6-char grid square	www.ukeicc.com	
31	1500	31 2359	3.5-28	Zombie Shuffle	CW	RS(T), SPC, Zombie no. or area code, name	www.zianet.com	

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.*

Maty Weinberg, KB1EIB, events@arrrl.org; www.arrrl.org/special-event-stations

Special Event Stations

Working special event stations is an enjoyable way to help commemorate history. Many provide a special QSL card or certificate!

Sep. 19 – Sep. 21, 0000Z – 2359Z, K4MIA, Loxahatchee, FL. PBSE. **National POW MIA Recognition Day**. 7.195 14.265 18.150 28.400. QSL. Michael Bald, 6758 Hall Blvd., Loxahatchee, FL 33470. www.qrz.com/db/k4mia

Sep. 25 – Sep. 27, 1300Z – 2200Z daily, W4F, Woodruff, SC. Spartanburg Amateur Radio Club. **18th Annual Triple Tree Fly-In**. 14.285. QSL. Spartanburg Amateur Radio Club, 400 Glennwood Dr., Spartanburg, SC 29306. *Check spotting networks*. www.qrz.com/db/w4f

Oct. 2 – Oct. 5, 0000Z – 2359Z, WWØWWV, Fort Collins, CO. WWV Amateur Radio Club. **WWV 106th Anniversary SES**. 7.048 7.248 14.048 14.248. QSL. WWV ARC, P.O. Box 273226, Fort Collins, CO 80527. www.wwvarc.org

Oct. 3 – Oct. 5, 0000Z – 2359Z, W1E/W3E/W4E, Prospect, CT. KB1FGC. **Elmer Appreciation Day**. 7.040 14.040 21.040. QSL. Richard Guerrero, 19 Terry Rd., Prospect, CT 06712. www.qrz.com/db/kb1fgc

Oct. 4, 1300Z – 2000Z, WØCWP, Anamosa, IA. Jones County Amateur Radio Club. **2025 Pumpkin Fest**. 7.200 14.250 18.150 21.300. Certificate. Ron Hendricks, 828 W. 8th St., Monticello, IA 52310. www.facebook.com/groups/151772133772

Oct. 4 – Oct. 5, 1017Z – 1017Z, K4R, Piney Flats, TN. Kingsport Amateur Radio Club. **Rocky Mount Celebration**. 7.235 14.275 28.410. QSL. Michael Gallatin, 106 W. Ellis Ln., Mount Carmel, TN 37645. contact@w4trc.org or www.w4trc.org

Oct. 4 – Oct. 19, 1400Z – 2359Z, N16BB, San Pedro, CA. Battleship Iowa Amateur Radio Association. **US Navy's 250th Birthday**. See website for frequencies; modes will be at the discretion of the operator. QSL. See website for information. www.biara.org

Oct. 6 – Oct. 10, 1700Z – 1800Z, WE4RV, Paducah, KY. Family RV Association Amateur Radio Chapter. **FRVA-ARC Fall Rally**. 7.060 7.240 14.060 14.265. QSL. John Bechtoldt, 1418 S. Yale Dr., O'Fallon, IL 62269. *Check DX cluster for spotting*. www.frvaarc.com

Oct. 10 – Oct. 12, 2259Z – 2359Z, N2S, Cape May, NJ. United States Coast Guard Auxiliary. **Celebrating 86 Years of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Serving the Coast Guard and America**. 7.250 14.310 18.200 VHF. Certificate. Mike Slepian, WB2LKO, 12 Continental Ln., Marlton, NJ 08053. www.cgaux.org

Oct. 10 – Oct. 14, 1300Z – 0400Z, WM3PEN, Philadelphia, PA. Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club. **Continental Navy Birthday**. 7.250 14.276. QSL. Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club, 3341 Sheffield Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19136. www.wm3pen.org

Oct. 11, 1330Z – 2100Z, K3S, Port of Baltimore, MD. Nuclear Ship *Savannah* Amateur Radio Club. **Ike Eisenhower's Birthday**. 7 14 18 21 28. QSL. Ullis Fleming, 980 Patuxent Rd., Odenton, MD 21113. *Check spotting networks*. *Savannah Award available*. www.qrz.com/db/k3s

Oct. 11, 1400Z – 1700Z, WØCXX, Cedar Rapids, IA. Collins Amateur Radio Club. **Collins Radio 92nd Anniversary**. 14.263. QSL. Brice AntonJensen, 1110 Lyndhurst Dr., Hiawatha, IA 52233. www.qrz.com/db/w0cxx

Oct. 11, 1600Z – 2300Z, N16IW, San Diego, CA. USS *Midway* Museum Ship. **US Navy Birthday**. 7.250 14.320; 14.070 PSK31 D-STAR on PAPA System Repeaters. QSL. USS *Midway* Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910 N. Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA 92101. www.qrz.com/db/n16iw

Oct. 11 – Oct. 13, 0000Z – 2359Z, NJ2KC, Bridgeton, NJ. New Jersey Knights of Columbus Amateur Radio Club. **234th Anniversary of Columbus Day**. 7.234 14.234 21.234 29.234. Certificate & QSL. NJ2KC c/o Thomas M. Perrotti, 785 Vineland Ave., Bridgeton, NJ 08302-4822. www.nj2kc.org

Oct. 13 – Oct. 14, 1000Z – 0300Z, K9NBH, Salem, WI. Great Lakes Radio Club. **US Navy Birthday**. 7.225 14.250. e-Certificate. See website for instructions. www.qrz.com/db/k9nbh

Oct. 18, 1400Z – 2000Z, K4RC, Williamsburg, VA. Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club. **Yorktown Special Event Station**. 7.265 14.265. Certificate. QSL Manager, WAARC, P.O. Box 1470, Williamsburg, VA 23187. *The Virginia Historic Triangle Certificate is available for working the Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown Special Event Stations*. www.k4rc.net

Oct. 18, 1500Z – 2200Z, W9P, Plover, WI. Central Sands Amateur Radio. **National Mashed Potato Day**. 14.320; 40 and 15 meters depending on band conditions. QSL. Phil Schobert, 300 Polk St., Stevens Point, WI 54481-5841. csarc2022@gmail.com

Oct. 31 – Nov. 1, 1300Z – 0500Z, WA4TRS, Fairview, NC. The Road Show Amateur Radio Club. **BOO!** 14.273. Certificate & QSL. The Road Show ARC, 57 Echo Lake Dr., Fairview, NC 28730.

Certificates and QSL cards: To obtain a certificate from any of the special event stations offering them, send your QSO information along with a 9 × 12-inch self-addressed, stamped envelope (3 units of postage) to the address listed in the announcement. To receive a special event QSL card (when offered), be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped business envelope along with your QSL card and QSO information.

Special Events Announcements: For items to be listed in this column, use the ARRL Special Events Listing Form at www.arrrl.org/special-events-application, or email information to events@arrrl.org.

Submissions must be received by ARRL HQ no later than the 1st of the second month preceding the publication date; a special event listing for **January QST** would have to be received by **November 1**. ARRL reserves the right to exclude events of a commercial or political nature.

You can view all received Special Events at www.arrrl.org/special-event-stations.



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

CW Sunday Net

2 Meters (146.550 MHz simplex) @ 8 p.m. Local Time

Net Reports

AERO CW NET Report, From Pat Stone, AC3F

The CW net met 4 Sundays in September. The following Brass Pounders checked in this month: KB3JVP, WA3QLY, K3DON, W3CLF, KD3BOJ and son, Brian Jr. Thanks to everyone for checking in and keeping CW on the air. You are doing a great job learning and practicing your CW skills.

The AERO CW NET meets every Sunday evening at 8PM local time on 146.550. All are welcome to join us whether you are interested in CW or not. See you on Sunday.

440 Net Report, From Joe Miko, WB3FMT

Held on Sept 9th at 8:00 pm. There were four participants on the net, the net ran for 20 minutes.

W3PGA	NCS	Joe	Essex
K3DON		Don	Joppatowne
KB3QWC		Larry	Middle River
KB3VAE		Richard	Essex

2-Meter Net Report, From Joe Miko, WB3FMT

Held on Sept 23rd at 8:00 pm. There were five participants on the net, the net ran for 24 minutes.

W3PGA	NCS	Joe	Essex
KB3QWC		Larry	Middle River
KB3VAE		Richard	Essex
K3DON		Don	Joppatowne
K3POJ		Gregg	Rosedale

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 & 4th Tue	7 pm	146.775, (-) PL 146.2	Harford County, MD, ARES
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 October 2025

Time EDT GMT - 4 Hrs EST - GMT 5

Oct 02 07	Venus at Perihelion
05 05:20	Moon at Ascending Node
05 22:46	Saturn 3.8°S of Moon
06 23:47	FULL Harvest MOON
08 08:36	Moon at Perigee: 359819 km
10 01:20	Pleiades 0.9°S of Moon
13 14:13	LAST QUARTER MOON
13 18:31	Jupiter 4.3°S of Moon
13 19:31	Pollux 2.5°N of Moon
16 12:56	Regulus 1.3°S of Moon
18 00:34	Moon at Descending Node
19 16	Mercury 2.0°S of Mars
19 17:37	Venus 3.7°N of Moon
21 08	Orionid Meteor Shower
21 08:25	NEW MOON
23 12:15	Mercury 2.3°N of Moon
23 19:31	Moon at Apogee: 406445 km
24 20:15	Antares 0.5°N of Moon
29 12:21	FIRST QUARTER MOON
29 18	Mercury at Greatest Elong: 23.9°E

Planet Lookout at Mid-Month

Sunrise 07:15 EDT and Sunset 18:26 EDT

Mercury Evening Rises 09:04, Sets 19:11, Mag -0.2, and Size 5.4 Arc Sec.

Venus Morning Rises 05:33, Sets 17:43 Mag -3.9 and 10.8 Arc Sec.

Mars Evening Rise 09:16 Sets 19:25, Mag +1.5 and 3.9" Arc Sec.

Jupiter Morning Rises 23:51 Sets 14:29, Mag -2.2 size 38.5" Arc Sec.

Saturn Evening Rises 17:27, Sets 05:12, Mag +0.8 size 19.3" arc sec.

Uranus Morning Rises 20:04, Sets 10:32, Mag +5.6 size 3.7"

Neptune Morning Rises 17:26, Sets 05:26, Mag +7.9 size 2.5

Measure With a Yardstick and Candle!

That's what was done over 100 years ago by a woman named Henrietta Leavitt looking at photographed star images.

Cepheid variables measure distance using the "period-luminosity relationship" discovered by Henrietta Leavitt: astronomers measure the star's pulsation period (time to go from bright to dim and back), use this period to determine its intrinsic luminosity (true brightness), and then compare this with its apparent luminosity (how bright it looks from Earth) to calculate the distance using the inverse square law of light. These Cepheids act as "standard candles," allowing astronomers to gauge distances to other galaxies.

The inverse square law states that the intensity of a phenomenon is inversely proportional to the square of the distance from its point source. This means that as the distance from a source increases, its intensity rapidly decreases, specifically by a factor of four if the distance doubles. It applies to quantities like light, radiation, gravity, and the electrostatic force, where the total energy or force is spread out over a larger spherical area as it moves away from the source.

Steps to determine distance:

Measure the Period: Astronomers observe a Cepheid variable and record the time it takes for its brightness to cycle from its brightest to its dimmest and back to its brightest again.

Determine Intrinsic Luminosity: The length of this period is directly linked to the star's true brightness (intrinsic luminosity). A longer period means the star is more massive, and more massive Cepheids are intrinsically brighter.

Compare with Apparent Luminosity: By comparing the star's known intrinsic luminosity with how bright it actually appears from Earth (its apparent luminosity), astronomers can use the inverse square law to calculate the distance. The further away a star is, the dimmer it appears.

Calculate Distance: This comparison provides a reliable method for determining the distance to the Cepheid, and consequently, to the galaxy it resides in.

Why this works:

Standard Candles: Cepheids serve as "standard candles" because their true brightness is known if their pulsation period is known.

Henrietta Leavitt's Discovery: In the early 1900s, Henrietta Swan Leavitt discovered the period-luminosity relationship, a fundamental tool for measuring cosmic distances.

Their predictable and regular pulsation cycles make them consistent and reliable for astronomical distance measurements.

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Website: http://w3pga.net			
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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