



# THE AERO AERIAL

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AERO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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OCTOBER  
1 AND 15



## 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](#)

## Events

### Red Rose Repeater Association Hamfest

**Date:** 10/4/2025

**Location:** New Holland, PA

**Sponsor:** Red Rose Repeater Association Hamfest

**Website:** [w3rrr.org](http://w3rrr.org)

### CARA Fest 2025

**Date:** 10/5/2025

**Location:** West Friendship, MD

**Sponsor:** Columbia ARC

**Website:** [www.carafest.org](http://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>

## 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>

In case you  
missed it,



check out the  
September 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® 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



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

There are a number of weekly contests not included in the table above. For more info, visit: [www.qrfoxhunt.org](http://www.qrfoxhunt.org), [www.nccsprint.com](http://www.nccsprint.com), and [www.cwops.org](http://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](http://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@arrl.org; [www.arrl.org/special-event-stations](http://www.arrl.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](http://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](http://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](http://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 Guerrera, 19 Terry Rd., Prospect, CT 06712. [www.qrz.com/db/kb1fgc](http://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](http://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](mailto:contact@w4trc.org) or [www.w4trc.org](http://www.w4trc.org)

**Oct. 4 – Oct. 19, 1400Z – 2359Z, NI6BB**, 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](http://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.* [frvaarc.com](http://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](http://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](http://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. Ulis Fleming, 980 Patuxent Rd., Odenton, MD 21113. *Check spotting networks. Savannah Award available.* [www.qrz.com/db/k3s](http://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](http://www.qrz.com/db/w0cxx)

**Oct. 11, 1600Z – 2300Z, NI6IW**, 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/ni6iw](http://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw)

**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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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 x 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.arrl.org/special-events-application](http://www.arrl.org/special-events-application), or email information to [events@arrl.org](mailto:events@arrl.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.arrl.org/special-event-stations](http://www.arrl.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	<a href="#">Baltimore Traffic Net</a>
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 women 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.

## 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 <a href="https://w3pga.net/the-aerial-newsletter-library/">https://w3pga.net/the-aerial-newsletter-library/</a>					
Website: <a href="http://w3pga.net">http://w3pga.net</a>					
Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/W3PGAClub">https://www.facebook.com/W3PGAClub</a>					
Email: <a href="mailto:w3pgaclub@gmail.com">w3pgaclub@gmail.com</a>					

### 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](mailto: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